FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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29 July Middle East and South Asia Review

LD291300 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Iranian Statements — Tehran radio broadcast a message to Muslim pilgrims from Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, who urged world Muslims to work with Iran to "smash the United States' teeth into its mouth." Khomeyni stressed that war fever in Iran will not subside until the overthrow of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, and he also announced Iran's "unstinting support" for all Islamic struggles "along the road to the liberation of Jerusalem."

In more direct comment on the Gulf situation, Iranian Revolution Guards Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust told KYODO that if the United States attacks Iranian ports and installations, Iran will respond with attacks on U.S. "military, economic and political installations all over the world." Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati stated in Geneva that Iran could attack Kuwaiti territory or offshore installations if Kuwait continues to support Iraq, AFP reported. Asked about the possibility of an Iranian attack on U.S. ships, he said Iran will make no restrictions in defense of its interests.

Iran on Maymak Fighting — Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces killed over 600 enemy troops in the Maymak area when the Iraqis launched two unsuccessful operations the morning of 28 July. A subsequent IRNA report asserted that the Iraqis lost another 250 killed or wounded as a result of an Iranian counterattack. The agency also cited a communique which reported four Iranian air strikes on Iraqi positions in the Maymak area. While the Iranian reports referred to fighting against Iraq's I Army Corps, the Iraqi military communique for 28 July contained no reference to engagements involving the I Corps. The communique, broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, did mention that Iraq's II Corps carried out two raids on Iranian positions in the central sector.

Soviet Policy — Soviet Foreign Ministry official Gennadiy Gerasimov said the U.S. "show of strength" in the Gulf contradicts the clause in UN Security Council Resolution No 598 calling on all states to exercise "utmost restraint" and avoid escalating the conflict, TASS reported. Gerasimov confirmed that Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov will visit Baghdad and Tehran shortly in connection with the USSR's efforts to implement Resolution 598. Vorontsov discussed his upcoming visit to Tehran at a meeting with the Iranian ambassador to Moscow, IRNA noted.

PRC Policy — At a press conference in Kuwait reported by KUNA, visiting PRC Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan denied that his country is supplying arms to Iran, including Silkworm missiles, and he dismissed "inaccurate" speculation that the PRC will oppose the imposition of mandatory sanctions against the party failing to abide by Resolution 598. Qi also disclosed that the PRC is "seriously" considering a Kuwaiti request to lease Chinese oil tankers. The Chinese envoy met with the amir and other officials during his 3-day visit to Kuwait, the agency noted.

Syria-Iraq

The Syrian pilot who was shot down over Iraq 28 July lost his way during a training flight and entered Iraqi airspace by mistake, a Syrian spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Damascus Radio. He said Iraq's conduct in shooting down the MiG-21 was "unjustified" in these circumstances, especially as there have been similar actions by Iraqi planes which were not shot down by Syria.

However, an Iraqi Foreign Ministry memorandum to the Arab League said the incident followed Iraqi warnings to Syria over repeated violations of Iraqi airspace by Syrian aircraft, INA noted. The Foreign Ministry expressed Iraq's willingness to return the captured pilot to Syria after completing "appropriate measures."

Egypt

Mubarak Diplomacy — President Husni Mubarak and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, held two meetings 28 July on the sidelines of the OAU Summit in Addis Ababa, MENA reported. A "responsible Palestinian spokesman" cited by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio termed the consultations "more than a reconciliation meeting." In remarks cited by PANA, 'Arafat told a news conference that the talks were aimed at clearing up the "family misunderstanding" between Egypt and the PLO. 'Arafat also reaffirmed the PLO's desire to participate in any international conference on the Middle East sponsored by the UN Security Council and stressed that his organization should be on an "equal footing" with all participants from the region, KUNA reported.

The Egyptian president and his Algerian counterpart, Chadli Bendjedid, also held talks, MENA reported, pointing out that this was their first meeting since 1985. Algiers radio noted that the two leaders exchanged views on the OAU Summit and on various international concerns.

Following a review of bilateral relations, Mubarak and Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed "satisfaction" with their "positive development," the Egyptian agency reported. Pursuant to an agreement between the two leaders, the foreign ministers of Egypt and Ethiopia signed a protocol which establishes a joint ministerial committee to promote cooperation in a number of sectors including trade, the economy, and science and technology.

Uranium Deposits — The energy minister has announced that uranium was discovered in the Sinai near Abu Zanimah, according to an *Al-Ahram* report cited by MENA.

Sudan

State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani issued the Emergency Law of 1987 which gives the authorities special powers of arrest, search and seizure, censorship and closure of the media, and punishment, SUNA reported, adding that the penalty for armed robbery will be death or life imprisonment. The law also prohibits hoarding, smuggling, and speculation in foreign currency. In a statement cited by the agency, the Bar Association

criticized the government for declaring the state of emergency and condemned the detention of supporters of the former Numayri regime, calling for their immediate release.

Yemeni-Soviet Relations

A cooperation agreement on the exploitation of the recently discovered oil deposits in the PDRY was signed in Moscow by PDRY Energy Minister Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun and Nikolay Talyzin, chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, Moscow television reported. The station also noted that Petr Demichev, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received a delegation of YAR parliamentarians for talks on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern.

High-Level Egypt-Libya Contacts Held in Algiers

PM271309 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 22-28 Jul 87 p 8

[Unattributed report: "Egyptian-Libyan Meeting in Algeria"]

[Text] *Al-Majallah* has learned that a 3-hour meeting was held between Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the Egyptian People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee, and Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Dam, adviser to [Libyan leader] Al-Qadhdhafi, in Algiers while they were attending celebrations marking Algeria's 25th anniversary of independence. The meeting was in response to Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Talib al-Ibrahimi's initiative.

Qadhdhaf al-Dam handed Dr 'Abdallah a report on methods of clearing the air between Egypt and Libya. The report lists steps that could eliminate differences between the two countries. This resulted from the mediation undertaken by YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih through his foreign minister, who visited Libya during the first days of the last blessed 'Id al-Fitr following President Mubarak's agreement to these actions.

'Abdallah delivered the report to President Mubarak. It will now be studied by Egypt's highest political authorities with a view to preparing a reply.

Moreover, Qadhdhaf al-Dam extended an invitation to 'Abdallah to visit Libya at the head of an official Egyptian delegation —including a number of officials from the Egyptian parties — to attend a seminar hosted by the Libyan Government 20-23 July on Arab conflicts and ways of liberating Palestine. Qadhdhaf al-Dam voiced the colonel's wish that the visit take place at an official level.

Mubarak Meets Algerian President in Addis Ababa

NC281734 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1625 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Addis Ababa, 28 Jul (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak met with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid this evening. Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian minister of foreign affairs, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, were also present. The meeting took place in one of the halls annexed to the Hall of Africa, where current sessions of the OAU summit are being held. The meeting between Mubarak and Bendjedid was their first since 1985, when they met during an earlier African summit in Addis Ababa.

Mubarak Leaves for Home 29 Jul

NC291030 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa, 29 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and his delegation departed Addis Ababa for Cairo this morning. Prior to his departure, the president stated that, in view of the firm strategic relations linking Egypt and Ethiopia, he cannot refuse Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam's invitation to attend celebrations commemorating the Ethiopian Republic's proclamation, scheduled for 12 September. President Mubarak said that during their meeting yesterday, he discussed with President Mengistu Haile Mariam methods of promoting bilateral relations in all fields. President Mubarak pointed out that the agreement signed by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on forming a joint Egyptian-Ethiopian ministerial committee comprising both nations' ministers of economy, agriculture, irrigation, and supply, takes effect immediately.

In his remarks to Egyptian journalists, the president described his meeting with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid yesterday as good and friendly. He stated that they had agreed to continue contacts between the two nations at all levels. Commenting on his meetings with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, President Mubarak explained that they discussed all aspects of the Palestinian issue and the PLO's activities. He asserted in this respect that Egypt will not abandon the Palestinian cause under any circumstances. He additionally pointed out that Egypt is doing its best to reach a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue.

In referring to the Arab situation, the president explained it is Arab differences that lie behind Arab impotence and the failure to reach a settlement of the Palestinian issue. President Mubarak warned that if the Arab nation cannot end this fragmentation, Arab countries will be endangered one after another. He interjected that Africans are resentful about the hijacking of an African airliner by Arab elements, and asserted the importance of Afro-Arab cooperation.

In discussing African debts, Mubarak stated that the solution to this problem lies in cooperation among the African states themselves. [passage omitted]

AL-'ARAB Cited on Arab Maghreb Unity Efforts

NC221730 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1620 GMT 22 Jul 87

[Text] London, 22 Jul (MENA) — The London-based Arabic-language *Al-'Arab* newspaper, quoting political sources in Algiers, today stated that the Arab Maghreb countries are currently holding consultations on a major plan for economic and political unity, in preparation for proclaiming a greater Arab Maghreb state.

According to the same sources, Tunisia, Libya, and Algeria have agreed on a number of practical measures to unite the Arab Maghreb. The sources noted that Morocco has been invited to join in this step and to attend the preliminary meetings soon expected to be held in Algeria at the foreign ministerial level. The sources added that Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has briefed King Hassan II of Morocco on the unity plans' details and told him it would be similar to the GCC.

Mubarak, 'Arafat Hold Second Meeting in Ethiopia

NC281629 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1620 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Addis Ababa, 28 Jul (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, this evening. This is the second time that Mubarak has met with the Palestinian leader in the last 24 hours.

Meet for Third Time

NC281745 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Addis Ababa, 28 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat for a second time today.

This is the third meeting between the two leaders since 'Arafat arrived in Addis Ababa yesterday.

The session took place in one of the salons of the Africa Hall, where the OAU summit meetings are being held.

'Arafat: 'Family Misunderstanding'

EA281949 Dakar PANA in English 1704 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Addis Ababa, 28th July — Palestine Liberation Organisation leader (PLO) Yasir 'Arafat today described his organisation's differences with Cairo as a "family misunderstanding", adding that he was currently holding talks with Egyptian leader Husni Mubarak aimed at patching their differences.

Speaking at a press conference, he said his organisation had established excellent relations with 35 African states and that there was no possibility that Israel could disrupt such a powerful Afro-PLO contact.

'Arafat also spoke on the proposed international conference on the Middle East, Palestine refugees in Lebanon and his organisation's relations with Syria.

Mubarak, 'Arafat Exchange Cables

NC281555 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 28 Jul (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has received a cable of greetings from Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, as he was crossing through Egyptian airspace. The text of the cable is as follows:

Your Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, may God protect you. It gives me pleasure as I cross the airspace of beloved Egypt to send your excellency, the fraternal Egyptian people, and your wise government sincerest greetings of brotherhood and love and to wish your excellency good health and progress and prosperity to great Egypt and its noble people under your wise leadership. May God grant us success in serving our Arab and Islamic nations together, God willing, to achieve the aspirations of our Palestinian Arab people and our glorious Arab nation and pray together in Holy Jerusalem with the help of God Almighty.

President Mubarak sent the following reply:

I received with gratitude your kind cable as you crossed through the airspace of your second homeland, Egypt. It pleases me to send you warm thanks for the noble sentiments you have expressed to me and the Egyptian people. I pray to God to bless our efforts to serve the interests of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

PLO To Participate in Mideast Peace Conference

LD282056 Kuwait KUNA in English 1937 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Addis Ababa, July 28 (KUNA) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), declared here Tuesday that his organization has decided to take part in an international conference supported by the United Nations Security Council for a peaceful solution of the Middle East conflict.

At a press conference here, 'Arafat said that the PLO's participation in this international forum should be on an equal footing with all Middle East parties.

The PLO chairman said that his organization at last decided to participate in this conference with a view to implement U.N. resolutions on the Middle East and particularly the resolution stipulating for the self-determination of Palestinians.

Answering questions on PLO's relations with Arab countries, 'Arafat stated that the misunderstanding which existed between the Arab family has been palliated and therefore the PLO has restored its usual brotherly relations with all Arab states.

'Arafat pointed out that PLO's relations with the Arab Republic of Egypt had improved, emphasizing that Egypt "as a great Arab power and peace maker" is very helpful to the PLO and its interests.

'Arafat further noted that he had held talks here with President Husni Mubarak of Egypt on their relations and the Middle East situation. The talks were conducted in a cordial and brotherly atmosphere, he added.

'Arafat later tonight held another meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, the second within 24 hours, the Egyptian official *Mideast News Agency* reported without giving details of discussion during the encounter.

It further reported a meeting between Mubarak and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, the first since 1985 but also did not elaborate on their talks.

'Arafat on African Relations With PLO, Israel

EA282049 Addis Ababa Domestic Service In Amharic 1700 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat issued a news statement in the Africa Hall this afternoon. Our reporter Tsion Demise, who was present, has filed the following report:

In his statement 'Arafat pointed out his belief that African states view the Palestinian problem as their own. He noted that he has great regard for the ever-improving relations between the PLO and African countries. Referring to the support given by African states to his organization, 'Arafat said that even the very few African countries which have reestablished diplomatic relations with Israel support self-determination for the Palestinians. Yasir 'Arafat condemned Zionist Israel and its collaborator, U.S. imperialism, for forcing some 3 million Palestinians to flee from their country without any property or hope.

'Arafat affirmed that imperialist puppets have carried out attacks on Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon by land, sea, and air. He noted that as a result of the efforts being made to prevent food and medical aid from reaching the camps, many children and innocent people have died. He called on all African people, governments, and parties to support the Palestinian people in their bitter struggle against the Zionists. He pointed out that the Israeli occupation forces are attempting to establish resettlement villages for Palestinians similar to those established in South Africa by the South African racist regime on the basis of racial discrimination.

He noted that the Palestinians will continue their struggle until the bitter end. Unless self-determination for the Palestinians is secured, there will be no peace in the region, Yasir 'Arafat asserted.He concluded his statement with an urgent call for an end to regional conflicts sponsored by international imperialism.

Ministry Refuses Israeli Request To Guard Embassy

JN281705 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 28 Jul 87 p 1

[Text] The Egyptian Foreign Ministry has turned down a request by the Israeli Embassy in Cairo to bring special security forces to guard the building in Cairo and the residence of the Israeli ambassador in Al-Ma'adi.

Military Spokesman on 'Bright Star' Maneuvers

NC281700 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 28 Jul (MENA) — Colonel Naji al-Tuhami, military spokesman for the Egyptian Armed Forces, held a news conference this morning on the joint Egyptian-U.S. maneuvers "Bright Star," which will be held this summer.

Col al-Tuhami began the conference with the following statement: "Small units of the Egyptian and U.S. Armed Forces will hold joint maneuvers in Egypt this summer. The maneuvers, known as 'Bright Star 87,' will include land, naval, and air exercises and will give both the Egyptian and U.S. troops the opportunity to benefit from each others' experience.

"The optimal benefits to be gained from the joint exercises will be employed in updating data and information about sophisticated weapons and tactics. Previous maneuvers have contributed to furthering both forces' experience. The American troops have arrived at the invitation of the Arab Republic of Egypt and they will leave as soon as the exercises are concluded."

Following his statement, Col al-Tuhami answered questions from journalists and correspondents affiliated with international news agencies. He reported that small units from the Egyptian Navy, Air Force, and Air Defense Forces will take part in the maneuvers with corresponding U.S. units. The maneuvers will be held from 15 to 20 August, he said, and the various stages of the drills involved will be announced on 15 August.

Asked whether forces from the Sultanate of Oman will participate in the maneuvers, Al-Tuhami replied: Some units may.

The Egyptian military spokesman denied any connection between the Egyptian-U.S. maneuvers and current events in the Gulf or U.S. plans in this regard. He said that the drills are not linked to any developments in the region.

Responding to a question on the nature of the drills and whether solo maneuvers will take place at any stage, Al-Tuhami stated that joint drills will be conducted for every corps; that is, there will be joint drills for the naval forces, the air forces, and the ground forces. This will be followed by joint maneuvers involving all the participating services, he said. In addition, Al-Tuhami noted that the U.S. forces will conduct an independent sea landing.

Asked if U.S. Marines will take part in the maneuvers, Al-Tuhami said that some Marines will participate.

When questioned about the U.S. forces taking part in the maneuvers and whether they are connected with the Rapid Deployment Force [RDF], the Egyptian military spokesman replied that some of the forces participating are from the RDF.

Concerning the weapons to be used in the exercises, Al-Tuhami said that some new and sophisticated arms will be used in the "Bright Star" exercises, which will help our forces benefit from developments in weaponry since the last exercises were held. He gave as an example U.S. M-1 tanks and asserted that the use of new planes will boost training programs for such aircraft.

When asked whether Israel had requested to participate in the joint Egyptian-U.S. exercises, Al-Tuhami replied that Israel had not made such a request, and Egypt would not have approved had it done so.

The Egyptian military spokesman was asked about the costs of the "Bright Star" maneuvers and who would be responsible for them. He noted that apart from some arrangements to exchange supplies or equipment, each country would cover the expenses of its own military forces.

Concerning the goals and details of the maneuvers and the specifics of the training plan, Al-Tuhami said that the details will be announced on 15 August. He added that the site and scenario of the maneuvers will be defined by Egyptian and U.S. officials, who are meeting to discuss the best way to conduct these maneuvers, drawing upon the lessons of recent exercises and avoiding past mistakes.

A joint Egyptian-U.S. command has been formed to supervise the exercises from the West Cairo Base.

Al-Tuhami emphasized that the U.S. forces participating in the exercises will begin leaving Egypt on 21 August, the day after the drills conclude.

At the end of his news conference, the Egyptian military spokesman announced that the first stage of the maneuvers will begin on 15 August. A news conference will be held that day by General George Christ, the commander of the U.S. forces taking part in the exercises, and Major General Faruq 'Abd al-'Azim, commander of the Central Military Zone, he added. The second stage, he said, will begin on 18 August. This will be followed by a news conference on 20 August, the final day of the exercises, by Gen Christ and Major General 'Umar Hammad, head of the Military Forces' Training Authority.

This is the fourth Egyptian-U.S. "Bright Star" exercise. The first three were held in 1981, 1983, and 1985.

By participating in these exercises with the U.S. forces, Egypt seeks to draw upon the experience of a country which is advanced in military expertise and modern warfare and which has immense capabilities in training and combat. Egypt will thus be able to train its troops using Western equipment which has not yet been commissioned into active service. This will boost the combat capacity of the Egyptian forces and bolster cooperation between the two countries in terms of highly sophisticated weaponry.

By cooperating in these drills with Egypt, the United States seeks to gain from the combat experience of the Egyptian military

forces and from their extraordinary ability to fight in desert terrain and in temperatures different from those of the United States.

The exercises will also serve to acquaint each side with recent training and combat methods and technology developed by their respective countries, test military equipment, and foster exchange of military expertise

Minister Announces Discovery of Uranium in Sinai
NC290610 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2245 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 28 Jul (MENA) — Eng Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, has announced that samples of concentrated uranium have been discovered for the first time in the Al-'Alawjah area east of Abu Zanimah in Sinai. The uranium is of the type that can be extracted easily. In its 29 July edition, the *Al-Ahram* newspaper reports that the Nuclear Resources Agency is studying the possibility of establishing a plant in the area to extract the mineral. It is also considering signing an agreement with Canada and France so that Egypt may benefit from their technical expertise in this field.

Soviet Solidarity Official Arrives 24 Jul

LD241646 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] (Vladimir Sokosov), member of the Presidium and chairman of the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity [title as heard], arrived in Tripoli this morning on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

In a statement at Tripoli International Airport, he saluted the Libyan Arab people and the great role the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah plays in the Arab homeland.

He also praised its stand against and its foiling of imperialism's designs.

Confirms Soviet Support

LD282204 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text](Vladimir Sokosov), member of the Presidium of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, departed this morning after participating in meetings of the international secretariat for solidarity with the Arab people.

In a statement to JANA, (Sokosov) confirmed the support of the USSR and its people for the Libyan Arab people in their brave opposition to imperialist intrigues. Finally, he praised the results of his visit, which he described as having been successful and fruitful in consolidating friendly and cooperative relations between the Libyan Arab and the Soviet peoples.

Supreme Soviet Official Stops Over in Tripoli

LD241759 Tripoli JANA in English 1524 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, Nasir [July] 24, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The vice-chairman of the Supreme Socialist of the USSR and chairman of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic [title as received], Mr. Aleksandr Mokanu, and his accompanying delegation stopped yesterday at Tripoli airport on his way back home.

In his comments to JANA correspondent, Mr. Mokanu has expressed his happiness and that of his accompanying delegation to pass [through] Great Jamahiriyah.

He stresses that the Soviet people will always stand by the Libyan Arab people in its struggle for freedom and progress.

While we pass [through] now Great Jamahiriyah witnessing the Libyan Arab people celebrate 23rd July Revolution, we wish this people all success and victory in all spheres.

Frolinat Addresses Statement to OAU Participants

LD291225 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Frolinat's First Army has addressed a statement to the heads of states and governments of the OAU. This statement affirmed the refusal of all sections of the Chadian people to obey the orders of the lackey dictatorial regime emanating from abroad.

The statement added that the Chadian people, who have struggled since 1966 for liberation from the yoke of imperialism and neocolonialism, affirm their determination to continue the armed struggle under the banner of Frolinat, the vanguard of this struggle.

The statement indicated that France, which sent its forces to protect its agents in Chad in 1968, 1972, 1978, 1983, and 1986, is now imposing colonial domination over the Chadian people. This is while the U.S. Administration adds fuel to the fire and supplies the lackey clique in Ndjamena with military equipment in a desperate attempt to deliver a blow from Chad to the great September revolution.

The statement stressed that the French and U.S. imperialist interventions have gravely complicated the Chadian question, rendering it a threat to peace and security in Africa.

The statement also stressed that the lackey clique in Ndjamena lies behind the failure of all OAU efforts at national reconciliation for Chad and that this clique did not adhere to the Lagos African agreement signed by 11 Chadian factions.

The statement called on the OAU to continue its efforts for peace in Chad and for expelling the French and U.S. colonial forces from that country. This statement also stressed that the OAU carries a great responsibility and a moral duty toward the Chadian people.

State Council Chairman Issues 'Emergency Law'

JN281828 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Jul (SUNA) — The chairman of the State Council yesterday issued the emergency law of 1987 consisting of 34 articles stipulating prohibited acts and the punishments for those violating them.

The law stipulates that the responsible authorities possess the right to detain any person for any amount of time they consider necessary if they believe he has committed, is committing, or is planning any act that might disturb the peace. The authorities will also possess the right to close any newspaper that publishes any material contrary to the emergency law or that rejects the emergency declaration. The responsible authorities will additionally possess the right to impose a curfew in any part of Sudan and to close all or some of the licensed stores in any area.

The law also authorizes the responsible authorities to enter and search any area, building, or property regardless of its nature. They are likewise permitted to confiscate any factory or establishment for any period of time they consider proper and in any manner they deem fit. These authorities will additionally have the power to seize any means of communications.

The law prevents any person or group of persons from violating the law by ceasing work for any reason or calling for a work stoppage. The law considers any meeting or procession that violates the penal code to be a violation of the emergency law. It also forbids hoarding goods to monopolize commodities, illegal foreign currency dealings, and smuggling goods contrary to valid laws.

The law empowers the State Council, in consultation with the chief justice, to form emergency courts of law. These will be entrusted with legal problems to be specified by the State Council. The law specifies a number of punishments in the form of prison terms, fines, confiscation, and loss of licenses. Those who commit armed robberies will face the death penalty or life imprisonment.

Bar Association Scores Measure

JN281118 Khartoum SUNA in English 1040 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum July 28 (SUNA) — The government by declaring the state of emergency aims at covering its failure in combating crimes solving the problems of economy and security the Bar Association in press statement released here yesterday announced.

The Sudanese Bar Association condemned the detention of the defunct regime of May elements describing their arrest as violation to freedom and basic human rights.

The statement added that the Bar Association has contacted minister of interior and the attorney general on the cancellation of laws restricting freedom according to which the authorities have arrested the followers of former President Al-Numayri last week.

The Bar Association described the arrest as violation to the rule of law the goals of April 6, 1985 popular upheaval and democracy.

The association urged the government to release immediately the detainees.

State Council Elections Postponed for Fifth Time

JN281924 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Jul (SUNA) — The Constituent Assembly today postponed electing a new State Council member, a deputy speaker for the Constituent Assembly, and the heads of the committees. This is the Assembly's fifth postponement during its current session. The postponement is to allow for further consultations on electing the fifth State Council member. This opening was caused by the resignation of Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdallah Yasin, the representative of the Democratic Unionist Party [DUP]. The Assembly decided to hold elections for the fifth State Council member's seat next Thursday.

In a related development, a responsible source in the Al-Ummah Party commented that he hopes the two ruling parties will overcome the crisis created by the election of a fifth member. He noted that his party does not interfere in the DUP's choices, and stressed that conventions existing between the two parties must be respected. The source stated that both parties have agreed not to nominate to leading positions any person who had cooperated with the defunct regime. He said the nomination of Sayyid Ahmad al-Sayyid violated this agreement.

The source noted that the Al-Ummah Party would have preferred to overcome this crisis by decreasing the number of State Council members, but in view of present circumstances, the two-thirds majority required for amending the Constitution may not be possible in the Constituent Assembly.

Minister Claims Islamic Front Behind Protests

JN281113 Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, July 28 (SUNA) — Minister of Education Bakri Ahmed Adil accused here yesterday the Islamic National Front (INF) of instigating the students who recently staged demonstration in the national capital. He described the recent demonstrations as destructive. The minister said that the shortage in school equipments is less than in the previous years. The political conspiracy was the cause of the demonstrations and not the shortage in schools equipment the minister said.

Government's Attempt To Recapture Jokau Defeated

EA271629 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Excerpts] A large enemy force that had been organized by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, the Khartoum prime minister and its minister for defense, to recapture Jokau before the OAU summit has been repulsed at Adong, 50 miles from Malakal and 160 miles

from Jokau. A spokesman for SPLM-SPLA told Radio SPLA that Al-Sadiq was so sure of recapturing Jokau that he recently announced on the radio and television that his troops in Malakal had been given orders to recover Jokau.

Thirty-two enemy troops were killed and many others injured during the Adong battles of 11, 12, and 13 July after the commander of the force, Lieutenant Colonel Al-Sadiq Taha 'Ali, died earlier on in a powerful mine blast at Nagdiar, near Malakal. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent said that the enemy was forced to return to Malakal with its dead and wounded following the 3-day battle, during which SPLA forces also knocked out four enemy trucks, one tank, and an armored personnel carrier. [passage omitted]

SPLA forces are now on full alert to repulse any further attempts by Al-Sadiq's forces to recapture Jokau, the spokesman told Radio SPLA.

In a related development, the spokesman disclosed that SPLA forces in northern Upper Nile under the zonal commander and alternate member of SPLM-SPLA Political-Military High Command, Major Dr Lam Akol Ajawin, have completed preparations to launch operation on enemy garrison inside Malakal town.

It is to be recalled that Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi had made lots of propaganda noise last year alleging that the SPLA had either killed or arrested Maj Dr Lam Akol. This obnoxious lie was repeated over Radio Omduraman for almost 3 months. According to the official spokesman for the movement, Maj Dr Lam Akol would welcome Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to Malakal to talk things over. He said that since Maj Dr Lam and Al-Sadiq used to discuss national matters together in Khartoum, he saw no reason why the two could not do so at Nagdiar or Dulayb Hill.

Prime Minister Interviewed on Gulf Conflict
PM241045 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic
18-24 Jul 87 p 13

[Report on interview with Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi by Salih Zaytun in Doha, Qatar; date not given]

[Excerpt] Despite some procedural obstacles that faced Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's tour in the Gulf states, the tour from a Sudanese viewpoint achieved most of its political and economic objectives.

According to a Sudanese source, in Baghdad, his first stop, Al-Mahdi succeeded in eliminating the misunderstanding in Sudanese-Iraqi relations that developed under his government over the Iraq-Iran war. According to this source, it can be stated that, after having been convinced of Iran's intransigence, Al-Mahdi has now begun to understand Iraq's position. This was reflected in the warm welcome he received from Iraq, especially during the farewell he was given before departing Baghdad.

When *Al-Tadamun* asked Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, during his visit to Qatar, about the results of his personal efforts to mediate between Iraq and Iran, he openly admitted that these efforts have failed. Al-Mahdi stated that if these efforts were to succeed they would achieve positive results. However, he said that there were new factors that might increase the chances of success for other attempts to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war. This is especially true in the wake of increasing possibilities of securing a unified Arab stand toward the conflict. These efforts can to a large extent succeed because they are supported by tangible international activity that has begun to be both practical and effective in its aim of achieving a peaceful regional solution.

In reply to a question by *Al-Tadamun* about whether this meant an end to his personal mediation efforts, Al-Mahdi noted: We will continue to spare no effort in this and will use all our contacts to achieve results. We prefer to light a candle rather than to spend our time cursing the darkness. Al-Mahdi indicated here that there is agreement with Arab leaders whom he met during his tour on a number of practical measures still to be implemented in the near future. He pointed out that Sudan's initiatives to end the Iraq-Iran war were not mediation efforts but a manifestation of a sense of responsibility, since this dilemma concerns Arabs and all Muslims. He stressed the importance of continuing initiatives to end the conflict and to establish peaceful relations on the basis of good-neighborliness. [passage omitted]

KUWAIT

PRC Vice Foreign Minister Concludes Visit

Denies Arms Sales to Iran

LD281939 Kuwait KUNA in English 1801 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, July 28 (KUNA) — China's Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan Tuesday expressed his country's understanding and sympathy with the measures taken by Kuwait to defend its security and protect export of its national resources.

The official, during a meeting with a group of journalists at his residence in the Hilton Hotel here, also voiced the Chinese leadership's commendation and appreciation of Kuwait's tireless and unrelenting efforts to find an immediate end for the Iraq-Iran war and to ease the tense situation in the Arab Gulf Region.

Qi further emphatically denied press reports that China was supplying arms to Iran, including anti-ship Silkworm missiles recently deployed by Tehran along the Gulf coasts. He emphasized that China's policy is based on abstaining from supplying Iran with any weapons until stoppage of its war with Iraq, adding the stance is 'principled and not subject to any modification'.

The official further denied that supplying Iran with Chinese weapons was made through coordination with North Korea, adding Tehran's the source weaponry [as received] is well known but refused to name it.

The official said China deeply understands Kuwait's request to lease Chinese oil tankers, but noted that Beijing's transport fleet is very limited, apart from the fact that re-registration of foreign vessels in China is an unprecedented event and China lacks both the experience and the pertinent governing laws.

Nevertheless, he emphasized that Beijing was seriously considering the Kuwaiti request. Gulf security is the sole responsibility of its littoral states, Qi asserted and refused any military involvement of big countries in the region.

He said that his country nonetheless is greatly concerned in ensuring freedom of navigation in the Gulf and referred in this respect to the fact that two Chinese vessels were hit last February by unknown gunboats. The deputy foreign minister underlined, however, that Beijing does not deploy war ships in the Gulf waters.

Qi described speculations that China opposes imposition of mandatory sanctions against the party failing to abide by Security Council Resolution 598 for a ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war as 'totally inaccurate and distortion of China's stance'.

He stressed that either through unilateral or multi-lateral efforts, China is striving to halt the war at the earliest and supports every effort or decision realizing that purpose, pinpointing his country's neutral but impassive stand from the conflict.

He strongly denied, meanwhile, that his country had any territorial ambition in Afghanistan or that bases of Afghan mujahidin existed on Chinese lands. Qi stressed that Beijing shares the international community's demand for withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

The deputy chief diplomat announced that he conveyed official invitations from the Chinese leadership to H.H. the amir, H.H. the crown prince and premier and the deputy premier and foreign minister to visit China at the time they deem appropriate.

He also invited his Kuwaiti counterpart Sulayman al-Majid al-Shahin, Qi said, noting that all invitations have been accepted.

Talks Called 'Very Successful'

LD281732 Kuwait KUNA in English 1423 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, July 28 (KUNA) — Official talks were held Tuesday at the Foreign Ministry between the Kuwaiti side, led by undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin and the visiting Chinese delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan.

Following the talks, lasting for nearly three hours, Al-Shahin stated that they complemented the exchange the Chinese official had yesterday with H.H. the amir, H.H. the crown prince and prime minister and with the deputy premier and foreign minister. During his audience yesterday, the Chinese guest handed H.H. the amir a message from the Chinese leadership dealing, in particular, with the ongoing Iraq-Iran war.

Al-Shahin explained that Kuwaiti officials felt China's positive response and attitude towards Security Council Resolution 598 in respect of a complete ceasefire between Iraq and Iran, noting that 'the resolution accords, in the end, with all concepts, efforts and peace calls'.

Today's talks, the official stated, dealt extensively with bilateral issues, including political, economic and cultural ties. The two sides' views were 'identical' on all subjects discussed, he underlined and described the Chinese Government envoy's mission here as 'very successful in light of the exchange we had with the Chinese delegation'.

Asked if anything concrete had been decided, Al-Shahin recalled that bilateral cooperation between Kuwait and China is long established, adding that despite the wide gap between both states, the Kuwait Fund for Economic and Social Development had contributed to execution of 16 projects in China, which are economically successful and are operating in a very positive and collaborative spirit.

On the Beijing Government's reply to Kuwait's request to charter oil tankers, the official said, 'we felt they are very responsive. This is in itself important to us'.

After the talks, Al-Shahin hosted a luncheon at Kuwait's Sheraton in honor of the Chinese delegation which was attended by senior ministry officials and the Chinese charge d'affaires in Kuwait.

Departs 29 Jul
LD290735 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 29 Jul (KUNA) — Qi Huaiyuan, envoy of the PRC Government and vice foreign minister, left Kuwait at dawn today at the end of a 3-day visit. [passage omitted]

Official Says 'No Obstacles' to Oil Marketing
JN282009 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 28 Jul 87 p 1

[Text] Shaykh 'Ali Jabir al-'Ali, acting deputy chairman of the Kuwaiti Oil Company and the official in charge of marketing, has asserted that Kuwaiti oil marketing operations over the past period were commensurate with the approved rates as specified for Kuwait by OPEC. He said that this amounts to 1 million barrels per day. In a statement to *Al-Anba'*, Al-'Ali affirmed that Kuwait has honored all its commitments and all the contracts it has signed with companies and states importing Kuwaiti oil. He said that recent arrangements will enable us to honor both current and future commitments.

Al-'Ali noted that Kuwait faces no obstacles in implementing its marketing policy. He stated: All our objectives are being implemented as planned.

Shaykh al-'Ali pointed out that Kuwait has not borrowed any oil to meet its commitments during the past period. He added: All the quantities of oil specified in the contracts were exported from Kuwaiti oil fields.

As to whether Kuwait has asked any of the Gulf states to export oil on Kuwait's behalf, Al-'Ali said that there are agreements among the Gulf states and that the issue of borrowing falls within the purview of the GCC states. He added, however, that Kuwait has not submitted any request to borrow oil because it does not need to do so right now.

PDRY

Political Bureau Discusses Al-Bid's YAR Visit
EA272150 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] The Political Bureau held its regular meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee. During the meeting, the Political Bureau discussed the results of the brother secretary general's visit to the northern part of the homeland. The visit took place as part of the steps being made by our political leadership for the consolidation of unifying contacts between the leaderships of the two parts.

The Political Bureau appreciated the national and political value of this visit and the positive atmosphere that had prevailed over the summit meetings between Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Central Committee, and Brother Colonel 'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland. The Political Bureau also appreciated the additional contributions made by the visit to the provision of stability in the two parts; to the maintenance of national sovereignty; and to the consolidation of efforts by the two leaderships to progress with firm steps toward achieving the aspired unified state on a peaceful and democratic basis and in accordance with the objectives of the 26 September and 14 October revolutions.

Defense Official Leaves for Visit to Bulgaria
EA291007 Aden ANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Aden, 28 Jul (ANA) — Comrade 'Umar 'Abd al-Samad, candidate member of the Central Committee and chairman of the National Command of the Organization of People's Defense Committees, left Aden this morning for the People's Republic of Bulgaria. His visit will last several days.

In a statement to ANA, Comrade 'Abd al-Samad explained that during his visit he will hold talks on increasing cooperation between the Organization of People's Defense Committees and the Bulgarian Fatherland Front. At the end of the visit, a protocol on future cooperation between the organization and the front will be signed. He was seen off at the airport by Comrade Casim 'Abd al-Rab, member of the Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Committee for Party Control, and a number of other officials.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Sources Report 140 'Saboteurs' Apprehended
PM271143 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 22-28 Jul 87 p 9

[Unattributed report: "Sanaa: 140 Saboteurs Apprehended"]

[Text] Informed Yemeni sources have stated that the number of saboteurs apprehended in Sanaa and other Yemeni regions has reached 140.

These sources added that this group of saboteurs had two leaders who were in close contact with a non-Arab Asian state. It is worth mentioning that one of those leaders undertook secret visits to that state, whereas the other frequently visited it openly and had press interviews published there.

Arab League Informed of Syrian Aircraft Incident

JN281301 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1229 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Jul (INA) — The Iraqi Foreign Ministry has informed the Arab League General Secretariat of the incident involving a new violation of Iraq's border by Syrian aircraft today. In an official memorandum submitted to the Arab League, the Foreign Ministry noted the repeated instances in which Syrian aircraft had violated Iraq's border despite repeated warnings to the Syrian Government through the Arab League General Secretariat.

In the memorandum, the Foreign Ministry expressed the Iraqi Government's readiness to return the aircraft's pilot to the Syrian Government after the appropriate measures have been completed.

The Syrian authorities have continued to violate Iraq's border on land and in the air for years.

Iraqi air defenses downed a Syrian MIG-21 inside Iraqi territory. An Iraqi military spokesman affirmed that its pilot is alive.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Assails Genscher Remarks on War

JN290949 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 27 Jul 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Mr Genscher's Gains"]

[Text] FRG Foreign Minister Genscher issued a statement during the Iranian foreign minister's visit to the FRG in which he accused Iraq of starting the war with Iran. Objective observers, who know nothing of the history of Genscher's relations with the mullahs' regime in Tehran, must have been shocked by this biased statement. This is especially true in view of the fact that this statement was made by the foreign minister of a member of the Security Council, whose members should respect Council resolutions and support their implementation without passing prior, tendentious judgments.

Resolution 598 authorized the UN secretary general to entrust a neutral body — which is certainly not Genscher — to investigate responsibility for the conflict. However, Genscher gave his suspect and unjust ruling on one of the resolution's clauses before making certain that his colleague, the Tehran mullahs' foreign minister, had accepted the Security Council resolution. This is the impression of objective observers who know nothing about the background of the situation. However, those who do know the background were not surprised by Genscher's statement. They are aware that Genscher had previously and personally rendered generous services to his friends, the mullahs of Tehran, and had made numerous gains that certainly did not include establishing peace or championing international law.

Our citizens, as well as all the people on this planet, will recall that Genscher, the head of German diplomacy, had personally given Khomeyni's son-in-law, the notorious drug smuggler Sadeq Tabataba'i, diplomatic immunity that he did not possess after being caught red-handed while smuggling drugs into the FRG. Those who remember Genscher's famous visit to Tehran in 1984 will also realize that he formulated the theory of the moderate mullahs, which was then exploited and peddled by Peres' adviser in the corridors of the White House. Less than 1 year after Genscher's visit, this policy concluded with the dirty ploy of Irangate and the transfer of arms to moderate mullahs in order to destroy extremist mullahs.

The world today can see for itself on U.S. television that all those who have played a role in this dirty ploy — whether they invented the theory of moderates and extremists or supplied the Tehran mullahs with arms through the Zionist entity — in fact prolonged the war. They sought regional destabilization so that some of them could achieve gains while others would secure strategic objectives. This is the case with the Zionist entity. Thus, those who have rendered successive services to the Iranian regime could not formerly and cannot today supply one single piece of evidence of their neutrality or their service to the cause of peace. They have instead provided a great deal of evidence that they had achieved large gains from the temptations of the Tehran regime of mullahs' policy in terms of further intransigence and indulgence in the dirty ploy of war.

Many knowledgeable observers, therefore, were not surprised by Minister Genscher's departure from his self-control and customary German conservatism to speak the language of Tehran's mullahs — only hours after meeting their foreign minister — and to employ their style of passing judgment. This confirms that the Tehran mullahs' foreign minister had provided sufficient peaceful and legal temptations to cause Minister Genscher to behave in this incautious manner and to accord diplomatic immunity to Iran's stand — which rejects Security Council Resolution No 598 — just as he had accorded diplomatic immunity to the drug trafficker Tabataba'i. While rushing to serve his friends the mullahs, Genscher totally disregarded the stands of Iraq — a nation that is eager to maintain decent relations with his nation — and ignored the suffering of West Germany's friends and neighbors in Paris, London, Berne, and elsewhere as a result of the mullahs' actions. Undoubtedly, the reward must have been truly tempting to cause an official to act in this manner. However, we are certain that this reward has absolutely nothing to do with establishing peace, championing international law, or entrenching the principles of international norms.

'Aziz Meets With FRG's Genscher, French Officials

For reportage on the meetings held by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, with FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and French officials, including French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, see the Federal Republic of Germany and France sections of the 29 July West Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Delegate Informs Klibi of Genscher Remarks

JN290850 Baghdad INA in English 1425 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Tunis, July 28, INA — Iraq's permanent representative to the Arab League Taha Yasin al-'Ali today conferred here with the League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

During the meeting, the Iraqi delegate briefed Mr. Klibi on the West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher statements and their grave impact on peace in the region in addition to being contradictory to the international stand for ending the Iraq-Iran war.

Mr 'Ali held similar meeting with head of the Arab Department at the Tunisian Foreign Ministry Mohamed Junaivan for the same purpose.

Gulf War Battlefront Reportage Continues

Communique No 2,759 Issued

JN281741 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Communique No 2,759 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 July 1987]]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With God's help, our leadership's wisdom, our people's sacrifices, and our men's struggle, Iraq will remain a sword in the side of our nation's enemies. The Zionists, the Iranian rulers, and the so-called Arabs are our enemies. All their attempts to encroach upon this lofty country will prove unsuccessful. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. At 1039 [0639 GMT] today, an aircraft penetrated the international border between Iraq and Syria. The aircraft was approaching from Syrian territory and has been confirmed as a Syrian MIG-21. It has also been confirmed that our air defenses in the second air defense sector downed this aircraft in an area located 6 km northwest of the Al-Qa'im complex in ('Akashat) and that its pilot is alive.

2. Today, our Air Force carried out 85 combat missions against enemy positions and assembly points along the operational areas. After inflicting new losses on the vile remnants, our brave hawks and their aircraft returned safely to the homeland.

3. The brave helicopter gunship knights today carried out 61 combat sorties. They destroyed several enemy positions, weapons, and hardware. They also inflicted losses on the enemy's ranks. Our knights then returned safely to base.

4. Our brave units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah engaged the enemy positions opposite them. They killed two enemy personnel and destroyed one shovel [preceding word in English], two machineguns, and one antitank gun. Our brave units in this sector were also able to detonate one ammunition dump, disrupt enemy engineering work, and seize a number of light weapons.

5. Two brave units from our forces in the II Army Corps central sector carried out two raids on enemy positions. They pounded the enemy personnel, killing 10 enemy scoundrels and wounding many others. Several enemy positions were also destroyed and a quantity of enemy weapons and equipment was seized. After carrying out theirmission, the two forces returned safely to base, praise be to God.

6. One of our brave patrols in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris destroyed two large vehicles and two infantry positions, killing their occupants. They also seized one enemy boat and a quantity of hardware and equipment.

7. Two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed, and one large vehicle was damaged in the VII Army Corps sector.

8. Our men in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan detonated one ammunition dump and destroyed one launcher and one machinegun emplacement.

9. Using long-range artillery, the criminal Khomeyniite clique shelled residential areas in the city of Al-Basra and in Qal'at Dizah. As a result, one woman was martyred and two civilians were injured. Mercy to our martyr and a speedy recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 July 1987

Iranian Opposition Acts Noted

JN271916 Baghdad INA in English 1330 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] London, July 27, (INA) — Combatants of the opposition Iranian movement of Baluchestan Mojahedin carried out a series of attacks on Iranian enemy forces positions in various parts of Iran over the past two months and instant. [sentence as received]

Statement issued here by the movement said its combatants last June launched an attack on Iranian forces position in Jackla Jahashim [as received] in Iranshahr town inflicting losses in men and equipment.

It added that other units of the movement set ablaze Kohuk [as received] power station of the town of Sirvand and completely destroyed it while other combatants clashed with a regime patrol along the road between Sirvand and Jaleck [as received] killing three numbers of the patrol and safely returned to base.

The statement added that the movement combatants clashed with regime troops in Mehran area killing and wounding several of them and safely retreated to base.

It added that another movement group attacked a Khomeyni guard patrol in Iranshahr town destroying two ammunition-laden vehicles and killing ten members of the patrol.

The statement further said that the movement combatants also attacked with rockets the power station of Khoshk area in the town of Saravan and destroyed the power generation units.

Shamir on Soviet 'Disinformation,' Conference
TA281737 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says Israel poses no threat whatsoever to the Soviet Union. Reacting to a series of overseas broadcasts by Moscow radio, the prime minister called the Soviet's concern over Israel's technological ability to develop missiles and other weapons an example of Russian propaganda and disinformation. Shamir was speaking this evening to the annual conference of the Orthodox Rabbinic Council of America, and reporter Dick Winter was there.

[Begin recording] [Winter] After two different broadcasts on Radio Moscow warning Israel about its missile capability, the prime minister today reacted.

[Shamir] The Soviet authorities are apparently worried about Israel's technological ability to develop missiles and other weapons. This is typical Soviet propaganda and disinformation. It's obvious. We are a small nation. We are certainly no threat to the Soviet Union.

[Winter] Prime Minister Shamir then turned to the subject of the international peace conference. Such a conference, he said, means one thing and one thing alone: a return to the 1967 borders.

[Shamir] Those who say international conference are saying return to the borders of 1967. That is how the Soviets understand it. That is how the Egyptians understand it. That is how the PLO understands this. We, on the other hand, the majority of the Jewish people in Israel, our decision is not to return, never to return to the 1967 lines.

[Winter] On the demographic dangers of Israel's remaining in the administered territories, the prime minister said Israel cannot be frightened by these dangers and cannot follow what he called a defeatist policy because of them. [end recording]

Paper Assesses Shamir Reaction
TA290752 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Jul 87 p 10

[Editorial: "Who Are They Kidding?"]

[Text] Although he took no exception to Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' favourable, if conditional, response to Moscow's call on this country to rethink its missile-building policy, Premier Yitzhaq Shamir has now made clear that he has his own views on Israel's proper attitude to the Soviet Union. These may not be startlingly new, but Mr. Shamir must have figured that a restatement would serve the national interest.

The Soviet Union, so the premier told a gathering of young conservative politicians in Jerusalem on Monday, "cannot play a constructive role in our region." Meaning it can have no rightful place in peacemaking between the Arab states and Israel. And why not? "Because of its policy towards Israel, because of its attitude to the Jewish people in the Soviet Union."

Were he a trifle more candid with his conservative listeners, Mr. Shamir might have admitted that these are, in his case, excuses and not reasons. For had the Kremlin completely realigned its Middle East policies with those of Washington, and had it allowed the virtually free emigration of its Jews, the premier would still strenuously object to even a purely formal Soviet co-sponsorship of an international conference on Arab-Israeli peace.

The true reason is that *any* method of peacemaking based on Resolution 242 — to which Israel, under a Likud premier, committed itself at Camp David — and not on an Israel-imposed diktat, will inevitably work havoc with the vision of Greater Eretz Yisra'el. Which is why Mr. Shamir opposed the Camp David accords when they came up for a vote.

To disbelieve Mr. Shamir is not necessarily to believe the Soviets when they dangle the carrot of peace before Israel's eyes — on condition that it tear up the strategic understanding with the U.S., and forswear any part in SDI, and break the Voice of America agreement, and withdraw to the 1949 lines, and melt its missiles into ploughshares.

Back in 1954 Israel solemnly informed the Soviet Union that, having no hostile feelings towards it but, on the contrary, being anxious to establish and maintain relations of friendship and amity with it, Israel "will not be a party to any alliance or pact aiming at aggression against the Soviet Union."

Unfortunately, Israel's then foreign minister, Moshe Sharet, neglected to elicit from his Soviet counterpart, Vacheslav Molotov, similar Soviet undertakings vis-a-vis this country as a condition of the resumption of diplomatic ties that had been broken a few months earlier by the Kremlin.

The resumption of ties turned out in fact to be merely a prelude to an escalating campaign of hostility towards Israel, with the Soviets acting as chief arms supplier and diplomatic bulwark for Israel's worst Arab enemies, and eventually as main purveyor of the monstrous lie about a worldwide "Zionist" conspiracy against peace and security, not least the Soviet Union's own.

The latest echo of that campaign could be detected in the thirdMoscow radio Hebrew-language commentary on Jericho II within one week. In it, the preposterous charge was reiterated that Israel, rather than seeking to fend for itself, was threatening Soviet "economic and strategic centres," such as the Baku oilfields. With the implication that it would yet rule it all.

With hundreds of nuclear-tipped Chinese missiles aimed at it, apart from the thousands of the U.S., that Moscow should single out Israel, which does not pose a danger at all, is more than ludicrous. Certainly it is a ridiculous pose for a great power. But then Stalin too had his mind on other diversions even as Hitler's divisions were poised to invade.

Israel will surely not be intimidated by Soviet sabre-rattling any more than it will be seduced by Soviet blandishments to give up its claims to safe and recognized nationhood. If the Soviet Union wishes to have a role in the Middle East peace process, it must

base any relationship it is willing to enter into with Israel on reciprocity and mutuality.

But for Mr. Shamir to pretend that the Soviet Union is not already in the Middle East, and diplomatically hyperactive in it, or that it can be ignored, is a response that must be attributed to the present heat wave.

Midday Press Views Shamir Stance

TA290831 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 29 Jul 87

[From the review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *Ma'ariv* and *Hadashot* comment on the three no's presented by the prime minister: *Ma'ariv* says that whether or not one agrees with Shamir's remarks, there is no question that their phrasing was wrong and unsophisticated. Lumping all these things together presents a stubborn Israel to the world, as stubborn as the Arabs in Khartoum. A similar view is expressed by *Hadashot*, which writes that just as the Arabs once granted us a major propaganda windfall, so now, in accordance with the boomerang principle, we have given them such a gift.

Kremlin Urged To Endorse Peres' Disarmament Terms

TA280829 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Jul 87 p 10

[Editorial: "Soviet Signals"]

[Text] If the Soviet Union wishes to engage Israel in an effort to reduce armaments and relieve tensions in the Middle East, it must try the two-way street to understanding. Israel does not consider the Soviet Union an enemy, but neither will it take dictation from it. This simple, but evidently necessary, message has been publicly conveyed to the Kremlin by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres this week.

It was to have been expected that the official Soviet media would not pass over in silence the report by a Geneva-based research organization that Israel had successfully tested a missile over a range of 820 kilometres in the Mediterranean. Moscow's first open reaction, in the daily Hebrew radio transmission last Thursday, was the long familiar dire warning.

Jericho II, a Russian commentary stated, posed a direct threat to the Soviet Union, and its further development would endanger Israel itself. This country, it said, was lending itself to a U.S. attempt to sabotage the arms-reduction talks in Geneva by helping its allies, such as Israel, to become nuclear powers. Jerusalem sniggered in response.

In a second radio commentary on the subject the following day, the aggressiveness of Moscow's tone was, however, attenuated, as if to confirm that the previous broadcast had not properly fitted into the new Gorbachev style. This time there was no reference to the warlike menace represented by Jericho II. The Soviet Union, it was stated, had no intention of stationing medium-range nuclear missiles in any Arab country, for that would upset the existing balance of power. But the Soviet Union reserved the right to station such missiles by agreements with the Arab governments concerned.

Israel was urged to pre-empt any such possibility by endorsing the new Soviet initiative for the elimination of medium- and short-range nuclear missiles in Europe and Asia.

Although a Hebrew-language commentary on Moscow radio does not rank even with a TASS polemic, policy-makers in Jerusalem took this second commentary as a hint that the Kremlin was miffed by Israel's failure to acknowledge a recent Soviet gesture: the well-advertised rejection of Syria's bid, aimed precisely at upsetting the Middle East balance of power and achieving "parity" with Israel, for SS23 medium-range Soviet missiles.

In a formal statement approved over the weekend by the premier and the defence minister, and read out to the full Cabinet at its Sunday meeting, Mr. Peres welcomed the Soviet overture. Israel, the foreign minister said, was ready to enter into a dialogue with all its neighbours in order to establish a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East. Such an arrangement would be based on the consent of both sides not to introduce short- and medium-range missiles into the region. That plainly meant that, in the context of a mutually agreed reduction or elimination of all such missiles, both nuclear and non-nuclear, Israel would be prepared to halt the further development of what is known as Jericho II. But, Mr. Peres stressed, Israel would not stop missile development or acquisitions in the absence of a Soviet-Arab quid pro quo. The ball was thus flung right back into the Soviet court.

The foreign minister's statement was moderation itself. It did not make it a condition of Israel's consent to engage in de-nuclearization and missile elimination talks that *all* Arab states concerned should at least indicate their willingness to make peace with this country, and that the Soviet Union resume full diplomatic ties with it. Nor — and these points still require elucidation — did it suggest that conventional weapons, such as the MIG-29s now reported to be arriving in Syria, should also be thrown into the bargain, and that such potential nuclear threats as Pakistan and Libya be counted among the parties to a de-nuclearization agreement.

Israel's terms, as set out by Mr. Peres, are not only moderate but minimal. By endorsing them the Kremlin would indicate that it is, at long last, prepared to start a genuine dialogue.

Peres on USSR 'Contradictions'

TA290627 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres believes the Soviet Union has not yet consolidated its final position on the upcoming moves it should make in the Middle East. Our correspondent 'Ofer Bardugo heard Peres at a meeting with U.S. orthodox rabbis:

[Begin recording] [Peres] I think the Soviet Union has not yet finalized its Middle East policy. One can observe contradictions in its policy, where on the one hand certain moves reflect Mos-

cow's desire to look like a superpower advocating solutions and peace, while another part of its policy — manifested in the Middle East — is tempted toward obtaining transitory, localized solutions.

[Bardugo] And how do you think tempers could calm?

[Peres] This also depends on us and our reaction.

[Bardugo] Have the latest reports on the missiles affected our future relations with the Soviet Union?

[Peres] The question is irrelevant, because it is necessary to tackle the basic issues of war and peace. Everything else is the direct outcome of this. [end recording]

'Attacks' Part of 'Dialogue'

TA290644 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Jerusalem has recently transmitted to Moscow a pacifying message, following reports on the alleged Israeli testing of Jericho missiles. The message was conveyed through various diplomatic channels. The issue of the strategic missile deployment in the Middle East was also raised in the talks held over the past 12 months between Shim'on Peres and Soviet figures. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports on them:

[Begin Frankel recording] The daily attacks on Israel in Moscow radio's Hebrew-language broadcasts at first appeared to be part of a Soviet propaganda campaign being conducted in a relatively unimportant medium. However, it turns out that they can also be regarded as the continuation of a dialogue that has already been launched between Israel and the Soviet Union over the deployment of strategic weapons in the Middle East.

It transpires that in all of Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' conversations with Soviet personalities — with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze in the UN headquarters in New York, with Ambassador Dubinin in Washington, as well as with diplomats Zotov and Brutents in Rome — the Soviets noted their firm opposition to Israel's participation in the U.S. Star Wars project. The foreign minister reacted by explaining that Israel has no offensive intentions regarding the Soviet Union, adding at the same time that in view of reports on the introduction of Soviet intermediate-range surface-to-surface missiles into Syria, Israel has found itself forced to develop its own defensive measures.

Reports that the Soviets decided not to supply SS-23's to Syria and had made a public announcement on this were followed by reports on Israel's testing of the Jericho-2 missiles, and these triggered an angry Soviet reaction.

This is why the foreign minister issued an extraordinary personal statement on Sunday, aimed at soothing the Soviets regarding Israel's intentions. Similar messages have been conveyed directly to Moscow via various channels. This is only part of the growing dialogue between the two countries. Direct contacts between Moscow and the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem over the peace process are expected to resume in the next 2 months, and another meeting between Shim'on Peres and a Soviet personality is also expected during the upcoming UN General Assembly session.

Moscow's position on key issues related to the international peace confeence — such as the inclusion of the PLO and the powers the conference will have — is unacceptable to both Shim'on Peres and the U.S. Administration. The target date is September, when Secretary of State George Shultz and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze are scheduled to meet. Washington officials have told Israeli diplomats over the past few days that unless the Soviets evince some shift in that meeting, the issue of the conference will be struck off the agenda for at least a year — which, as everyone knows, is the U.S. presidential election year. [end recording]

Rabin Rejects Soviet 'Charge'

TA281756 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today refused to confirm or deny whether Israel possesses an intermediate-range ballistic missile. However, he rejected the Soviet charge that an improved version of the Israeli Jericho ground-to-ground missile poses a nuclear threat to the oil fields in the southern USSR. Rabin appeared today before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] Does Israel possess an intermediate-range ballistic missile or not? asked left-wing opposition Knesset Member Yosi Sarid, when Defense Minister Rabin appeared before the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Rabin gave no answer, but when he emerged from the committee meeting I asked him for his reaction to the Soviet charge that the improved Jericho missile poses a nuclear threat to the oilfields in the southern USSR.

[Rabin] One word: The Soviet Union is not an enemy of Israel, and I have nothing to add to it.

[Katzenell] The Soviet Armed Forces do not constitute a consideration in the building of the Israel Defense Forces or their armanents, Rabin said. He told the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the Russians are no longer interested in perpetual tension in the Middle East. They are no longer fishing in troubled waters. Instead, they are interested in a political settlement that will enable them to realize their regional interests. Those in Israel who are holding up diplomatic activity are playing into the Soviets' hands because time is on the Soviets' side. I asked Rabin whether Syria's newly acquired Soviet MIG-29 warplanes threaten Israel's air superiority.

[Rabin] Any additional weapon, no doubt, which is much more sophisticated to the kind of weapons that were supplied in the past, increases the military force of Syria, and no doubt we have to take it into account.

[Katzenell] However, in Rabin's view, a MIG-29 is no match for the American F-15, which Israel possesses. [end recording]

Comments on USSR Mideast Policy

TA290723 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Jul 87 p 2

[Report by Knesset correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Text] The Soviet Union apparently bases its Middle East policy on the assumption that the war between Iran and Iraq will end this year, Defence Minister Rabin said yesterday.

Briefing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee on the assessment of experts with regard to Soviet policy in the Middle East, Rabin said that the war has given Arab countries in the American camp considerable room to maneuver. But should the war end, the Russians believe, the Soviet Union would find it much easier to operate within the Arab world and to organize their satellites.

Rabin said the Soviet Union expects 1988 to give it more freedom of movement in its rivalry with the U.S. because President Reagan will be a lame-duck president, and hence will find it harder to block Russian ascendancy in the Middle East.

The minister said the Soviet Union expects that a "zero option" accord with Washington on the stationing of missiles in Europe will pave the way to a detente in the Middle East. Such a detente would not be in Israel's interests, Rabin said, which makes it all the more urgent for Israel to pursue the political initiative now, vis-a-vis Jordan and the West Bank.

Labour MK [Knesset member] Mordekhay Gur said: "One of our former defence ministers (Ari'el Sharon) once had a plan to make Israel the spearhead of the U.S. in its rivalry with the Soviet Union, and Shamir's stand reminds me of nothing more appropriate than that."

He said: "We would do ourselves a grave disservice if we acted rashly vis-a-vis the Soviet Union, and we would be negligent if we did not realize that a new wind has begun to blow from Moscow."

Speaking later to reporters, Rabin declared: "The Soviet Union is not an enemy of Israel and none of our military calculations takes the Soviet Union into account."

Peres Welcomes USSR 'Acceptance' of Zero Option

TA291030 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Report by Knesset correspondent Hayim Zissowitz]

[Excerpt] The hottest issue Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres was called upon to address at today's Knesset plenary session was reports on the development of the Jericho missiles and the warnings from the Soviet Union. The motion was submitted by HADASH Knesset Member [MK] Me'ir Wilner who, as was to be expected, expressed apprehension over the prospects of Israeli nuclear development. Minister Peres said Israel would not allow supervision by superpowers that have an a priori hostile approach toward Israel. Addressing MK Wilner, Peres said: You would be well advised to pass this word on to the Soviet Union.

[Begin Peres recording] At the same time, Mr Speaker, I would like to express the Israeli Government's satisfaction with the Soviet announcement on its acceptance of the zero option, namely the removal of intermediate- and short-range missiles from Europe and the Middle East. We welcome the announcement made by the U.S. President last night, in which he accepted the Soviet proposal. In our opinion, this Soviet-U.S. rapprochement is an extremely serious issue. [end recording]

This rapprochement has also had a positive effect on another issue, which is closer to Mr Peres' heart, and that is the international conference. He called the shift on that issue a breakthrough, maintaining that among other things, the two superpowers agreed that all the participants in the conference would accept Resolutions 242 and 338 and agree to avoid terrorism. [passage omitted]

Commentary on Soviet Military Involvement in Region

TA281353 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Jul 87 p 13

[Commentary by Re'uven Pedatzur: "Military Involvment As a Political Tool"]

[Text] The arrival of the first MIG-29's in Syria was the bait with which Mikhail Gorbachev wanted to catch Hafiz al-Asad, a sort of mid-term medal for good behavior. However, the arrival of the MIG's in Syria should be viewed as a tacit lifting of an embargo. Al-Asad had been promised these aircraft long ago, but each time the consignment was withheld for a variety of reasons. And to puzzle Damascus even more, the Soviets meanwhile supplied MIG-29's to India and even to Syria's arch rival — Iraq.

The Kremlin is employing the foolproof method of the carrot and stick vis-a-vis Al-Asad. When the Syrian president visited Moscow in April, his interlocutors warned him that he must tow the line of the Soviet Union's Middle East policy. He must dissociate his country from international terrorism, grow closer to Saddam Husayn, and seek paths to the heart of his nemesis, Yasir 'Arafat. The returns for his compliance with all these demands came this week in the form of the MIG-29's.

Yet, concurrently with the arrival of the aircraft in Syria, the Kremlin deliberately leaked to the West that Gorbachev had decided not to supply Syria with SS-23 missiles. The refusal to dispatch the missiles, previously promised to Al-Asad, was explained in that leak as stemming from the Soviet Union's desire to leave the door open toward contacts with Israel as part of Moscow's new policy toward the Middle East.

In an address in Washington 3 weeks ago, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin analyzed the new Soviet strategy in the Middle East. In his assessment, the Soviets want to bring about an end to the Gulf war because this ongoing conflict helps stabilize peace between Israel and Egypt, pushes 'Arafat into the arms of Egypt and Jordan, and further exacerbates Syria and Libya's isolation in the Arab world. These three outcomes of the war contradict

the Soviets' interests in our region. Rabin believes the Kremlin's focusing on the Persian Gulf problems accords Israel a political grace period, which it must take advantage of to consolidate peace with Egypt and to bring about a dialogue with Jordan in anticipation of a new political move.

The novel moderate tunes emanating from the Kremlin and its preoccupation with the Iran-Iraq war have nevertheless not changed one basic fact: that the Soviet Union is directly involved in the Middle East on a massive scale, far greater than the United States, in the shape of at least 8,000 experts and advisers permanently stationed in countries in the area. Additionally, some 2,000 Soviet Army men occupy operational posts throughout the Middle East. They are stationed in independent units commanded by Soviets which operate side-by-side with the Syrian, Ethiopian, and PDRY armies.

Approximately 2,000 Soviet advisers can be found in the Syrian Army — in every echelon — and are involved in consultation and training on a wide range of military operations. It seems this number increased a bit this week upon the arrival of the Soviet technicians who are supposed to help the Syrian Air Force incorporate the new aircraft. Unlike other countries, Syria pays for the Soviet advisers, so Damascus' economic plight has resulted in a decrease in the number of Soviet advisers over the past 12 months. In addition to civilian experts, there are nearly 1,000 Soviet regular servicemen and officers deployed in independent units in Syria. The turning point in Soviet involvement in Syria came at the end of 1984, when the 2,000 Soviet technicians who activated the SAM-5 batteries were sent back to the Soviet Union, handing over their job to the Syrian Army.

Between 2,000 and 2,500 Soviet advisers and experts are permanently stationed in Libya, although the Libyan Army commanders are unhappy with this Soviet presence, claiming that the advisers' professional level is poor. The argument they use to prove their point is the 6th Fleet attacks on Libya and the sinking of the Libyan frigates in the Gulf of Sidra. In both cases, Soviet expertise failed to help minimize the damages or foil the U.S. aircraft operations.

More than 1,000 advisers are present in Iraq. These numbers are increasing in direct proportion to the increase in the number of Soviet weapons funneled to the Gulf battlefront. The Soviet advisers are helping the Iraqis learn about the new USSR-made weapon systems, but it appears that they do not occupy operational positions in the Iraqi Army.

Some 1,000 advisers and approximately another 1,000 Soviet Army personnel are in Ethiopia, where the Soviets have naval bases serving their fleet. These bases are controlled by Soviet military men. In the PDRY there are some 1,000 Soviets, half of them military personnel.

An interesting development in Soviet involvement in the region occurred in Jordan over the past 2 years: In 1986 the first Soviet advisers arrived in the Hashemite Kingdom, where they taught the Jordanians how to use the SAM-8's Husayn had purchased in Moscow as a demonstrative move following the U.S. refusal to sell him mobile Hawk missile batteries.

The Kremlin believes the repeated U.S. rejections of Husayn's requests for sophisticated weapon systems can be exploited to deepen Soviet involvement in Jordan. Thus, after Congress turned down the Jordanian request for F-16's, the Soviet Union rushed to offer Husayn its MIG-29's.

The Soviet "5th Fleet" grows in times of crisis. When the U.S. 6th Fleet aircraft raided Al-Qadhdhafi's bases in Libya, the Soviet flotilla's size increased. The Soviets also station at least one intelligence-gathering vessel permanently off Israel's coast. In the past 3 years, Soviet aircraft and pilots have been stationed in Syria and Libya — primarily to carry out surveillance of the 6th Fleet's movements.

Those people in Israel who voiced concern over the sharpness of the Soviet warning to Israel following reports from abroad on the development of the Jericho-2 missile can rest peacefully. The announcements broadcast in Moscow radio's Hebrew-language programs merely constitute another step in the rhetorical ritual adopted by the Soviet regime, which on the one hand emphasizes the Israeli "threat" to the Soviet Union, while on the other explains that Syria will not receive new intermediate-range missiles similar to the Jericho.

On the other hand, those who want to promote the political process must realize that the MIG-29's flying in Syria and Iraq and the thousands of Russian-speaking uniform-donning personnel stationed permanently close to our border cannot be ignored. The Soviet military involvement in our region, however massive, may not change the military balance between Israel and its neighbors, but it certainly grants the Soviet Union the power to torpedo any political move Israel might try to launch without Soviet participation.

Arens: Soviet Jewry Issue 'Barometer' of Glasnost
TA290742 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Jul 87 p 1

[Report by Greer Fay Cashman]

[Text] Speaking at the convention of European Democratic Students in Jerusalem, Minister Without Portfolio Moshe Arens echoed remarks by Shamir.

Rejecting the implication by Moscow Radio that Israel poses a threat to the USSR, Arens said: "The Soviets arm Israel's most implacable enemies. Soviet military personnel have actually participated in military action against Israel. The Soviets have a hand in starting hostilities against Israel and Soviet leaders have in the past threatened Israel with nuclear attack."

"We have our own barometer of what glasnost means, and that barometer is the situation of Soviet Jewry."

If Soviet Jewry were allowed to come to Israel, that would be "a sign of real change", Arens said.

Bolshoi, Red Army Chorus Seen 'Upgrading' Ties
TA280820 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Jul 87 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt][Passage omitted]Two of the Soviet Union's best known groups, the Bolshoi Ballet and the Red Army Chorus, have scheduled performances in Israel, the orgainzer announced on Sunday. It would mark a significant upgrading of cultural ties.

Victor Freilich, a Soviet-born Israeli impresario, confirmed Israeli newspaper reports that he had signed the two attractions as well as four other Soviet and two Czech entertainment groups, all to perform in Israel by 1990.

Freilich returned last Thursday from a three-week trip to Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. He said his talks in Moscow were with officials of the Soviet Ministry of Culture.

Two Soviet singers, Bulat Okudzhava and Alla Pugacheva, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra and the Igor Moisyev dancers would also perform in Israel, Freilich added in an interview.

He said the Bolshoi and the Red Army Chorus would perform in Israel in 1989.

Thatcher Letter Asks Shamir To Reconsider Conference
TA281759 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has asked Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to reconsider sympathetically and constructively the idea of an international conference. In a letter to Mr Shamir, Mrs Thatcher writes that both she and President Reagan are committed to accept the conference idea. Here is a report by our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami:

In her letter, Margaret Thatcher reviews her talks in Washington on the political process in the Middle East and her talks on this matter with King Husayn in London. Thatcher writes to Shamir that an agreement can be reached in an international conference without any of the sides being given the authority to impose its will. The conference would be a good format for leading Israel and Jordan to direct negotiations, and it is only such a format that Britain intends to support.

Thatcher also thinks a conference would pose no threat to Israel, and she regards the incorporation of the Soviet Union as an advantage in that it would create the possibility for the emigration of thousands of Jews from the Soviet Union. President Reagan and I, the British prime minister concludes, have committed ourselves to further the conference idea; I urge you to reexamine the idea in a constructive spirit.

Thatcher also sent a similar letter to Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres including a report on her talks with leaders of the U.S. Administration and her request that a firm and public stand be taken favoring Peres' understanding with King Husayn. Thatcher reports a fear in Washington of taking a position that could make the internal rift over the problem of the conference even deeper in Israel.

Egypt Conveys Husayn Terms for Meeting Shamir
TA290915 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 29 Jul 87 p 1

[Report by the political correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Excerpt] Jordan's King Husayn will be prepared to meet with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, in secret just as he met with Mr Peres, only if Shamir does not come empty-handed and if he expresses readiness to promote the international conference idea. A message to this effect has been transferred to Israel by Egyptian bodies, following a request from Israel that Egypt examine the possibilities for such a meeting. [passage omitted on Mubarak's meetings in Addis Ababa]

Shamir Asks OAU To Help Release Ethiopian Jews
TA280816 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Jul 87 p 2

[Report by Andy Court]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shamir called last night upon African leaders now meeting in Addis Ababa to press for the release of Jews remaining in Ethiopia.

"These Jews want only one thing," Shamir said. "Let them leave Ethiopia and come to Israel."

The prime minister spoke at an assembly of 3,000 Ethiopian Jews and their supporters at Jerusalem's Binyeney Ha'ooma which aimed to highlight the plight of Ethiopian families seeking reunification.

No one knows exactly how many Jews remain in Ethiopia, but a middle-range estimate is 15,000. At least 1,000 children now in Israel have parents who are still in Ethiopia and are unable to leave. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 0400 GMT on 28 July carries a related report, adding: "Absorption Minister Ya'aqov Tzur said Israel has not abandoned its attempt to bring all Jews remaining in Ethiopia to this country. But he said it was impossible to set dates as to when this would take place, or to give any further details."]

Deqel Supports Transfer of W. Bank Arabs to Jordan
TA290444 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister Mikha'el Deqel has expressed support for transferring the Arab population of Judaea and Samaria to Jordan. A Voice of Israel reporter says Deqel revealed his views on the subject to other members of the Herut Party during a recent meeting of party supporters in Netanya. Deqel also said responsibility for the actual transfer should be in the hands of Western countries.

Likud Dissociated From Idea

TA290828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text]Sara Doron, chairman of the Likud Party to which Knesset Member [MK] Deqel belongs, takes issue with the transfer idea he raised, saying it goes against the views of party ideologue Ze'ev Jabotinsky, as well as those of most Likud members. She claimed the issue has never been discussed by the Likud and if it were, it would have quickly been struck off the agenda.

Shamir: Idea 'Personal Opinion'

TA291018 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Replying to our political correspondent's question on Mr Deqel's transfer idea, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said this is a personal opinion. It is not a Likud idea, nor is it part of the Likud's platform, Shamir said; therefore, this view is not binding on the party as a whole.

Peres 'Strongly' Attacks Proposal

TA290853 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0830 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres strongly attacked the transfer proposal raised by Knesset Member [MK] Mikha'el Deqel, saying only a twisted mind could propose such a thing. Here is an excerpt of Shim'on Peres' remarks before the Knesset plenum:

[Begin Peres recording] Only a distorted and warped mind could suggest the so-called transfer proposal. I heard such a proposal this morning, advocating an appeal to the United States — as though the United States has to solve our problems — that it approach the Arabs and make them agree to leave, just because MK Deqel sees a demographic problem. What kind of groundless, distorted, and warped story is this? It only does tremendous damage to Israel, its reputation, and very nature. The United States will never accept such a role. It has its own views on how to solve the problem. I am likewise unfamiliar with any Arab who would be prepared to leave of his own free will, and I sincerely hope I will not meet Jews who will want to use force to make them leave. [end recording]

Party Submits No-Confidence Motion

TA290917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] The Progressive List for Peace [PLP] has submitted a no-confidence motion to the Knesset following Deputy Defense Minister Mikha'el Deqel's advocacy of the transfer of Arabs to Jordan. The PLP also called upon the defense minister to fire Mikha'el Deqel. The motion will be debated next week.

West Bank Palestinians Denounce Amman 'Conference'

NC290923 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 17 Jul 87 p 1

[Text] National institutions and key figures in the occupied territories issued a statement 2 days ago denouncing reports that the Jordanian Government intends to hold a "public conference" in Amman in the next few days. Jordanian authorities and some supporters in the occupied territories will participate in the conference to issue "resolutions" shaping the Palestinian people's destiny and damaging the distinguished relations between the fraternal Jordanian and Palestinian peoples.

Reports on 11 July indicated that 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah [Jordanian Government official] has called for this suspicious conference and that he and a number of Jordanian Government officials are planning to convene the conference at an appropriate time. The goal of the conference is to undermine any possibility of reconciliation between the PLO and Jordan and to trample the PLO's legitimacy as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, wherever they may exist. The national statement stresses rejecting this conference in part and parcel. In addition to being a serious attempt to undermine Palestinian legitimacy publicly and through the work of some stooges and collaborators, this conference seeks, at the same time, to hamper Arab solidarity efforts and efforts to restore normal relations among various Arab countries.

DPRK Vice Premier Received by Al-Asad 29 Jul

JN291236 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] At 1215 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and foreign minister, and his accompanying delegation. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the DPRK ambassador in Damascus also attended the meeting.

Kim Yong-nam conveyed to President al-Asad the greetings of DPRK President Kim Il-song. President al-Asad asked the DPRK minister to convey similar greetings to the DPRK president. The talks focused on bilateral relations and the current situation in the Middle East and southeast Asia.

Received by Khaddam

JN282112 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and foreign minister, and his accompanying delegation at 1300 today. The DPRK ambassador in Damascus was also present. The talks dealt with the situation in the Middle East and in east Asia. Bilateral relations were also discussed.

The official Syrian-Korean talks, which concluded this morning, were led by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam. The talks revolved around the current international situation and Middle East developments. Also reviewd were the latest developments in South Korea, its dimensions, and the DPRK's position toward the peaceful unification of both parts of Korea.

Mashariqa Receives Poland's Mlynczak 28 Jul

JN281918 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqa, vice president and deputy chairman of the National Progressive Front, received this evening the Polish delegation led by Comrade Mlynczak, chairman of the Polish Democratic Party and deputy chairman of the Council of State. They discussed current developments in the Arab region, as well as matters of mutual interest and bilateral ties.

Comrade Mlynczak expressed his appreciation for the great achievements realized in Syria under the courageous and wise leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. These achievements, he added, have culminated in the joint Soviet-Syrian space flight. This confirms Syria's leading place among the nations of the world.

Foreign Minister Receives PNC's Khalid al-Fahum

JN271859 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum this evening. Their talks dealt with the Palestinian situation.

'Over 50' Reported Dead in Train Explosion

NC290546 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0515 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that an explosion took place on a Syrian freight train operating between Aleppo and Al-Jazirah in Syria a few days ago. Three railroad cars were destroyed in the blast, which killed well over 50 people. The precise number of casualties remains unknown in view of the cordon imposed on the site by security forces. It is believed that the blast may have been the work of fundamentalist groups operating within Syria, who are possibly affiliated with Iran.

TISHRIN Praises Lebanese Unity, Liberation Front

JN281303 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1228 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Damascus, 28 Jul (SANA) — The newspaper *Tishrin* has said that the formation of the Lebanese Unification and Liberation Front highlights a clear policy that seeks to realize security and political stability for Lebanon. This security and stability embodies the aspirations of faithful Lebanese nationals who adhere to their pan-Arab affiliation.

In an article today entitled "Pan-Arab National Struggle Front," *Tishrin* said that the form and goals of the Front contain many useful elements. These elements can be used to lay the foundation for law and order. This foundation will be based on a comprehensive, clear political concept which is not linked with party gains or personal connections harmful to Lebanon in any way.

The paper referred to the Front's statement which stressed the special relations with Syria and the Palestinian position both withinand outside of Lebanon. *Tishrin* said that this shows that the Lebanese nationalist forces are aware of what is required to fight the battles fro stability and liberation in Lebanon. The special relationship with Syria embodies deep-rooted ties of struggle. These ties are based on a unity of aims and fate binding the two sister countries. As for the Palestinian position, the Front clearly explained its pan-Arab policy of struggle. It did so when it stressed the need for confronting the deviationist trend and holding it responsible for hindering the march of Palestinian national action both in and out of Lebanon.

The paper said: The Front stressed the profound Syrian-Lebanese relations and their ability to strengthen Lebanese ranks and confront the expansionist Zionist ambitions. By doing so, the Front affirms actual conditions defined by united hopes and joint battles in Lebanon. These hopes and battles are against the various phases of the Zionist invasion and the Israeli agents and their destructive practices aimed at everything Lebanese.

Concluding, *Tishrin* praised the solidarity of struggle and political concord which has characterized Syrian-Lebanese relations over the past 11 years. The paper said: What should be noted is that Syria cares for Lebanon as much as it cares for itself. Syria will always support any action or trend intended to rescue Lebanon and enable it to liberate its territory and establish security and amity therein.

Commentary on U.S. Aspirations To 'Dominate' Gulf

JN280728 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States has increased the number of its warships in the Gulf region and has ordered them to sail in a show of force. This is taking place in a tense region, which any side could make explode if it has the desire to do so. Other countries have joined the United States either by increasing their military presence in the Gulf or by expressing an intention to send naval or other forces to the region. The actual or verbal participation of these countries may be the result of pressure from the United States, which wants to appear as the international policeman and protector of world order.

Regardless of what has been said about justifying U.S. moves and threats, which are usually exaggerated propaganda rather than signs of practical steps, the fact remains that such moves do not safeguard the freedom of navigation, reduce tension, or prevent the spread of the Gulf war outside its present confines. Had the United States been truly interested in guaranteeing the freedom of navigation to all countries, it would not have adopted such a one-sided attitude. The situation that the United States and others complain about is open to discussion and argument in terms of importance, origin, and the ways and means to tackle it in a serious, responsible manner.

However, the United States has always aspired to dominate the entire Gulf region and its oil wealth. The U.S. Administration preceding Reagan went as far as to declare the Gulf region vital to U.S. national security. This means that the U.S. Administration wanted to include the Gulf region in the U.S. security zone. The theory of the U.S. security zone is the same as the one that Israel is implementing in southern Lebanon. In the past, the shah's regime — the agent of U.S. imperialism — used to implement U.S. decisions and allied itself with Israel against the Arab liberation movement and the region's nations. When the revolution was born in Iran — and the people and their revolutionary forces deposed the shah's agent regime and declared their hostility to imperialism and Zionism — the U.S. strategy in the Gulf lost one of its main pillars.

However, the United States did not abandon its past dreams of dominating and controlling the region and its wealth or of regaining its lost position. Thus, the U.S. political and military moves in the Gulf can be evaluated on this basis. The United States speaks about justice, the freedom of shipping, and peace, while endeavoring to spread injustice, tension, and threaten peace. Had the United States truly supported the freedom of shipping and air flights, it would not have hijacked planes in international airspace. It would not have used its veto at the Security Council to prevent the international community from condemning the Israeli leaders for kidnapping civilian aircraft in international airspace, and it would not have remained silent over Israeli warships' violation of the freedom of shipping in the Mediterranean. The aim of preventing the spread of the Gulf war is good. However, the U.S. show of force and muscle-flexing in the Gulf and neighboring regions will not help the serious search for peace.

AL-BA'TH Criticizes Egyptian-U.S. Collaboration

PM281333 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 17 Jul 87 p 1

[Editorial: "United States Extends Its Borders to the Arab Seas"]

[Text] Arab politicians and media officials agree on the fact that the Arab world is actually being subjected to a military encirclement operation, executed by the U.S. Navy with Israel and the NATO states participating.

The truly painful thing is that Arab governments and Arab regimes are participating in this encirclement by receiving U.S. Marines and coordinating with them in rehearsing the occupation of Arab territories. The Egyptian regime, which leased to the U.S. Pentagon the entire Egyptian territory from Sinai to Al-Sallum and the oases, seems to be proud of the fact that U.S. fleets and planes are traversing both Egypt's waters and sky in search of an Arab target to down or sink.

In its official statements, the United States does not deny that U.S. maneuvers on Egypt's soil are paid for, and that it is Egypt's debts to the United States which oblige the regime to open all Egyptian territories to the U.S. option.

Despite the fact that the regime is an agent of the United States and deals with Israel, it has received no thanks from the United States, which considers its actions on Egypt's soil and in its waters and airspace to be one of the conditions for deferring interest payments on U.S. loans.

The United States, while subjecting Arab turncoats to its political and military decisions, believes that its borders have been extended to the Red Sea and the Gulf and that it is completely free to do whatever it wants. This further reassures Israel about its dreams and objectives, as long as Israeli policy proceeds under the U.S. shadow.

Some, like those who control the government in Egypt, do not feel ashamed when they announce that their cooperation with the Western states is a natural thing to do. At the same time, they display ingratitude toward Arabism, as if they have rendered themselves a party to the Zionist-Western equation against the Arab nation and its aspirations to preserve its existence and destiny.

Therefore, the Arab citizen has the right to ask: How can these people claim that they care about Palestine and its holiness while they are allies of the Zionists and pursue the policy of the United States, which cares for Israel as it cares for any U.S. state?

Since this is the case, we can do nothing but ask the same question asked by the masses in Egypt and the Arab world about the value and significance of U.S. naval, land, and air maneuvers in Egypt and at its gates: Does the United States desire Arab security while being the strategic ally of Israel?

What always seems to concern the United States is an expansion of world conflict. Its presence on Arab soil and what surrounds it is nothing but disaster for the Arabs and their destiny, since the United States would succeed in internationalizing the region.

Whatever the pretexts of those being sheltered under U.S. protection, they are invalid and rejected. The interests of the Arab nation are above all self-interest, and Jerusalem will never be returned to the Arabs and Muslims through a decision made by those who participated in usurping Palestine and in all Zionist aggression on pan-Arab soil.

AL-BA'TH: 'Conspiracy' Against Nation 'Failed'

PM281101 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 16 Jul 87 p 1

[Turki Saqri editorial: "The Return to Truth Is Better Than Persisting in Falsehood"]

[Excerpts] The EEC states, meeting in Copenhagen at the ministerial level, have called for the lifting of the ban on diplomatic contact with Damascus and the renewal of high-level contacts. They have also put pressure on Britain, which has severed relations with Syria.

In the face of this change in the stance of the West European states, Syria can only perceive this move as a way to allow the former situation to be rectified. There is no doubt that Syria always welcomes any step taken by the EEC states or anyone else to improve relations with it. Syria also welcome the abandonment of futile pressures and attempts to influence its stances, policies, and firm principled course. [passage omitted]

Perhaps the examples of relations with the EEC states and the changes occurring in these relations, bear witness to the failure of attempts by imperialist and Zionist powers to undermine Syria's line and to distort its position. It reaffirms a fact which should have been known for some time by those countries; namely, that Syria does not succumb to pressures nor does it abandon its position under threats. It cannot be intimidated or compelled by means of punitive measures against it to deviate from its firm strategic aims.

It has become clear that this language, which still appeals to ruling circles in some states which have not understood the spirit of the times, has become an outmoded language and inappropriate for discourse with Syria or with anyone else. It would be useful for international relations if this truth is well understood.

In Syria we constantly strive to establish normal, regular international relations on the basis of equality, respect, mutual benefit, and noninterference. These fundamental principles in international relations do not require that there be complete agreement on all international and regional issues between states. Syria has always asserted that it bases its relations with other states on their stance concerning issues of the Arab nation. The closer these states are to the true Arab national issues, the closer they will be to Syria and, without exaggeration, to the Arab masses.

We do not deny that there may be conflicts between states on one matter or another, which is normal, but there is always a margin for the continuation of ordinary relations facilitating contact, meetings, and cooperation. One can honestly say that the time when a few states controlled the fate of peoples, imposed their will on states, and determined the course of regional and world development has passed and will not return.

We have demonstrated in Syria through clashes and struggles which have reached the point of armed conflicts that we do not submit to anyone's will. We do not take orders from anyone, and we do not abandon our position — no matter what sacrifice or cost. [passage omitted]

We have always said no to separate deals, and no to plans which entail forfeiting rights. We have said yes to international efforts and endeavors which seek to find a solution to the problems of the region under the supervision of the United Nations and on the basis of its charter and resolutions. Such a solution can be achieved not through labyrinthine bargaining and the cudgel of threats and pressure, but through recognition of and respect for inalienable rights.

We do not boast nor do we evade reality when we say that the conspiracy which took place under the guise of combating terrorism has definitely collapsed. The hostile, shameless, and fabricated campaign against Syria has effectively failed, and those who accuse Syria and randomly fabricate accusations about terrorism know today that their accusations are devoid of any truth. Syria opposes terrorism — not out of fear, nor as a consequence of the hostile measures adopted against it by one state or group of states — but out of a conviction that terrorism is not one of the means worthy of a liberation struggle. A national liberation struggle against occupation, oppression, and foreign hegemony should not use terrorism as a weapon.

KABUL NEW TIMES Views Friendship of Soviet Union

LD220642 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0439 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul, July 27, *Bakhtar* — The brief visit paid by Najib, general secretary of the CC PDPA, to the Soviet Union and the talks held with the Soviet leadership have opened a new chapter in the history of Afghan-Soviet friendship writes daily *Kabul New Times*. The leaders of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union assessed in depth all aspects of Afghan-Soviet friendship and the international developments in a friendly atmosphere marked by full understanding.

This visit took place in conditions when the process of deep going transformations is gaining momentum in the life of the Afghan people. The peace offensive, embodied in the all-round programme of national reconciliation, assumes new dimensions and ever growing attraction among the broad strata of Afghan people and the world public at large, the daily newspaper said.

National reconciliation which has been transformed from mere slogans and words to practical deeds and commenced bearing fruits covers all walks of life of the Afghan people.

The promulgation of the law on parties, extension of unilateral ceasefire, formation of coalition institutions and organs at all levels and, last but not the least, releasing the draft constitution for public debate, all demonstrate the sincere desire of the Afghan leadership to solve problems through peaceful political means, based on realism and common sense not through machine-guns, Stingers or Blowpipes. National reconciliation has found positive response among the broad socio-political circles of the world and was received with full understanding by all those who cherish peace and international security. It was rightly stated in the Moscow meeting between the Afghan and Soviet leaders that national reconciliation has faced no other rational alternative neither inside nor outside the country.

Firmly reiterating the support of the Soviet Union to the programme of national reconciliation in the DRA, the Soviet leader stated in clear-cut terms: "Soviet Union wants Afghanistan to remain an independent, sovereign, non-aligned state. What road it will take, what government it will have, what development programme it will be implementing is for the Afghan people to decide," the daily noted.

The Moscow meeting between Afghan and Soviet leaders was held in a complicated and tense international situation marked by the hysteric drive of imperialism to achieve world supremacy. It is due to the unabated war-mongering of reactionary imperialist circles, above all the USA, that many parts of the world, including Asia, have been transformed into bridgeheads of aggression and destabilization and the menace of a nuclear holocaust is on the increase.

The people of Afghanistan have followed with keen interest the talks held between the Afghan and Soviet leaders. While expressing their full support to the outcome of these talks, they have reiterated their firm commitment to do their utmost for the further enrichment and preservation of Afghan-Soviet friendship, as the most precious heritage of V.I. Lenin and the freedom-loving leaders of Afghanistan.

BAKHTAR Reports on USSR Economic Assistance

LD290612 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0436 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul, July 28, *Bakhtar* — Over one hundred and thirty important projects will be constructed under the economic assistance of the Soviet Union in the context of socio-economic development plan during the years of 1986-1991.

Presently, two hundred and thirteen important economic projects are under construction with the Soviet's assistance, one hundred and twenty of which have been completed so far. Similarly, forty important economic projects have already been completed with the assistance of the Soviet Union since the April Revolution of 1978.

The facts and figures show that the Soviet Union's economic assistance to Afghanistan have a long history and dates back to many years before the revolution. For instance, the establishment and exploitation of 140 economic projects since 1954 is a good manifestation of the Soviet's economic assistance. To name some of them are two woolen factories in the provinces of Kabul and Qandahar, sugar production factory in Baghlan Province, three bakeries in Kabul, Pule Khumri and Balkh, fertilizer and electricity factory in Mazar-e Sharif.

These and other important economic projects in different parts of the country have been greatly helpful in raising the standard of living of the people and to strengthen the country's economy.

The people of Afghanistan understand the importance of such economic assistance and are determined to expand the scope of their fraternal relations with the Soviet Union.

President Claims Opposition 'Wants To Grab Power'
BK290518 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] President Ershad has said the need of the hour is to maintain peace, stability, and discipline in society to carry forward the process of development initiated by the government. He was addressing the members of the Executive Committee of the Central Command Council of the Bangladesh Mukti Jodha Sangsad [Freedom Fighters Association] in Dhaka today.

The president regretted that some political elements suffering from self-contradictions are trying to create social indiscipline. These politicians, who have no concrete programs for the socio-economic development of the country, want to grab power. But the people, he said, have seen enough anti-people activities when they were in power. President Ershad, who is the chief adviser of the Mukti Jodha Sangsad, said the people know it well about who have killed thousands of people — including freedom fighters — and thrown thousands behind the bars. All these they have done to achieve their selfish political purposes, he pointed out, and said that his government has not done anything like that during the last 5 and 1/2 years of its rule.

The president said when the people at presently are suffering from floods, some political parties have taken programs to create chaos as if they were extending their happy hand [as heard] to the suffering humanity. It is now clear to the people that the only aim of these political elements is to grab power and not the welfare of the people. He said the people have given their verdict in favor of this government in the last parliamentary and presidential elections, so it is the responsibility of the present government to materialize its programs and policies. The government, he said, is determined to discharge its duties to the people who have elected it by upholding the cause of democracy and the spirit of the war of independence.

Referring to the measures taken by his government to uphold the cause of liberation war, the president said he had not only established the freedom fighters in their rightful place in the society, but also made efforts to translate their dreams into reality.

Delhi: Intellectuals Demand Government Resignation
BK290912 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] In Bangladesh, 24 noted intellectuals have asked for the resignation of the Ershad government and dissolution of Parliament. In a joint statement in Dhaka, they appealed to people, including all political parties and social forces, to reach a broad agreement so that a nonparty interim government can be formed to reestablish democratic system in the country through free and fair elections. The statement came on the eve of a planned march toward the President Secretariat by the Awami League-led opposition alliance tomorrow to press its demand for the resignation of the government. The government has banned all demonstrations and gatherings within a 1-mile radius of the President Secretariat from this afternoon.

State Protests Indian Media Campaign on Chakma
BK281606 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Bangladesh has expressed its dismay and regret over a recently launched anti-Bangladesh campaign on Chittagong Hill Tracts and Chakma refugees in the Indian media, including the Dorrdarshan television.

A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Dhaka today that it is unfortunate to see the Indian Government portraying the highly imaginary scenario and leveling unfounded charges against Bangladesh. He said a strong protest had already been lodged with the Indian Government in New Delhi by the Bangladesh High Commissioner against such officially-sponsored media campaign.

This campaign, the spokesman said, runs counter to the spirit of the assurances of friendly cooperation and goodwill conveyed so recently by the highest Indian political leadership.

The spokesman said the Doordarshan program unfortunately came at a time when Bangladesh had shown utmost restraint despite clear evidence that the government of India was sheltering and arming the terrorists across the border.

Meanwhile, a Foreign Office source said Bangladesh will not object to the initiative of a French volunteer organization seeking to arrange the transfer of a group of Chakma children who had been living in deplorable conditions in refugees camps in Tripura [state of India]. The government is in touch with the French organization and has asked for the complete list of the Chakma children before their transfer could take place.

The source said that Chakma children could be allowed to go to France and live there under the custody of the Bangladesh ambassador in Paris. They will have to avow to return to Bangladesh as soon as the [words indistinct] want them back home.

Gandhi Criticizes Opposition Behavior in Parliament

BK281616 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] The prime minister has expressed distress over today's ugly and unprecedented incidents in the Lok Sabha. Asked for his reaction, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who is also the leader of the House, told PTI that decorum and propriety have been violated.

The prime minister said grave provocation was caused when an opposition member snatched papers from the hands of the defense minister while he was reading the motion for the setting up of a joint parliamentary committee to investigate the Bofors case. These trends are distressing.

Mr Gandhi said what is at stake is the very future of free and fair debate. The undisguised attempts to throttle debate through the use of force in the House is totally undemocratic. It has dangerous undertones.

The prime minister said that every right thinking citizen would condemn such irresponsible and unbecoming behavior which could not but undermine the sanctity of parliament.

The parliamentary affairs minister, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat, has criticized the behavior of the opposition in both houses of parliament today saying it was against all norms of democracy.

Addressing newsmen, he said it is now apparent that the opposition is not interested in the appointment of the parliamentary committee to probe the Bofors deal without delay but continued its allegations against the government and the ruling party.

Mr Bhagat said in his talks with opposition leaders he conveyed the government's willingness for a simultaneous discussions on the official motion and the opposition amendments.

Tamil Leader Meets With Gandhi, Comments on Accord

BK290308 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] The prime minister met representatives of various Sri Lankan groups, including LTTE and TULF [Tamil United Liberation Front], late last night.

During the talks, Mr Gandhi reiterated that the proposed agreement will fully cater to the aspirations of the Tamils.

The LTTE leader, Mr V. Prabhakaran, later in a statement appreciated the positive aspects of the agreement and expressed satisfaction over his talks with Mr Gandhi. He said he apprised the prime minister of various issues, particularly the question of security of Tamil people after the disarming operations. He said Mr Gandhi understands our fears and is fully sympathatic to the Tamil aspirations. He would continue discussions with the prime minister after he returns from Colombo tomorrow.

Representatives of EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students], EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front], TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization], PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam], and ENDLF [Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front] jointly met the prime minister.

The TULF team comprising Mr Amrithalingam and two other members also met the prime minister separately.

Prime Minister Leaves for Colombo To Sign Accord

BK290243 Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi
0230 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, left for Colombo this morning on a 2-day state visit to Sri Lanka. The prime minister told newsmen at Delhi airport that the accord which will be signed in Colombo will create a new environment in the entire region. He added that the accord will end the continuing violence in Sri Lanka.

When asked about the LTTE reaction, the prime minister said a constructive statement was issued by this organization last night.

Among those who saw the prime minister off were many cabinet ministers and members of parliament from Tamil Nadu. A high-powered good-will delegation consisting of cabinet ministers, members of parliament, and high officials, including three ministers — Mr Narasimha Rao, Mr Natwar Singh, and Mr P. Chidambaram — and three members of parliament — Professor M.J. Ranga, Mr G.K. Moopanar, and Mr Jaffar Sharif — and Foreign Secretary Mr K.P. S. Menon, are accompanying the prime minister.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi and President Jayewardene will sign the accord in Colombo on ending the ethnic problem.

Violent Incidents Continue To Plague Punjab

BK290422 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] The Punjab police have arrested Chamkor Singh Rohde, a prominent organizer of terrorism in the state. According to the state police chief, Mr Ribeiro, he was arrested in Chandigarh yesterday. A number of cases under the Prevention of Terrorist and Destructive Activities Act are pending against him. Rohde, who was earlier arrrested, had jumped bail.

The two terrorists killed in an encounter with the police near (Chanan Ke Drain) in Chowk Mehta area of Amritsar have been identified as Hardial Singh Dalla and Avtar Singh Garga, alias Bhindi Baha. Both were wanted by the police in connection with a number of terrorist crimes.

Meanwhile, the Amritsar unit of the Bhartiya Janata Party has given a bundh [strike] call in Amritsar city today to protest against the killing of a local party leader, Mr Puran Chand Bhatia, by terrorists yesterday.

Next Round of Talks With PRC To Be Held in New Delhi
BK280918 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] The eighth round of official-level talks between India and China is to be held in New Delhi. The dates have not yet been finalized.

Giving this information in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha today, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, also said that India welcomes the agreement between Britain and China on the future of Hong Kong. He said that there are about 20,000 people of Indian origin in Hong Kong. Of them, about 15,000 are Indian passport holders.

The minister said Britain should ensure that the British citizens of Indian origin are not rendered stateless after China resumes sovereignty over the island.

Radio Reports 'Extracts' of Khomeyni Hajj Message
LD281301 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1101 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] On the eve of the international hajj congress, Imam Khomeyni has sent a very important message to the pilgrims of the Holy House of God and to the world's Muslims, the oppressed and deprived. In view of the importance of this message of the imam of the ummah, we now draw your attention to extracts from it:

In his message to the pilgrims of the Holy House of God and to the world's Muslims, the oppressed and deprived, Imam Khomeyni stated: Thanks to the endless blessings of God Almighty, on the eve of the departure of the honorable Iranian pilgrims to the temple of love and to God Almighty and His great prophet — peace and God's mercy be upon him and his clan — the call of Islam is reverberating in remote parts of the world and Islam's spiritual banner is being raised throughout the world. The eyes of the world turn toward the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The imam of the ummah said: The disavowal of the pagans -- one of the prerequisites of monotheism and the political criteria of the hajj --should be carried out with as much ceremony as possible during the hajj in the form of demonstrations and marches. The honorable Iranian and non-Iranian pilgrims must attend all ceremonies under the coordination of hajj officials and my representative, Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi. In the House of Monotheism, they must repeat the crushing slogan, disavow the pagans and apostates of world arrogance headed by the criminal United States, and remember to express their hatred for the enemies of God and mankind.

The imam of the ummah asserted: Let the zeal of the monotheists be manifest through their hatred for pagans and hypocrites. What house is more suitable than the Ka'ba, the house of security and piety where all aggression, injustice, exploitation, slavery, degradation, and inhumanity are practically and verbally condemned and where allegiance to God is repeated and dieties and idols are broken?

Imam Khomeyni pointed out: The disavowal [of pagans] during the hajj is a renewal of the oath to fight and an example of the coming together of the crusaders who fight the battle against blasphemy, paganism, and idol worship. It is not just confined to slogans either, for one of the basic principles of monotheism is to bring the struggle to light and to organize God's soldiers against the forces of Satan and satanic people. If Muslims do not disavow the enemies of God in His house, where else can they do it?

Imam Khomeyni said: Yes, our slogan of "Neither East nor West" is the fundamental slogan of the Islamic revolution in the world of the hungry and the oppressed. It describes the true nonaligned policy of Islamic countries and those nations that will, in the near future, accept Islam as the only way to save mankind with God's help. No one must deviate from this policy by one iota. Islamic countries and the Muslim people of the world must not be dependent on the West, the United States, or Europe, nor on the East and the USSR. God willing, they will join God, God's messenger, and the Lord of the Ages.

The imam of the ummah stated: After taking part in the disavowal march and declaring their alliance to the brave Iranian nation, the Muslims should consider ridding their Islamic lands of colonialism. They should strive to oust the forces of Satan and the military presence of East and West in their countries. They should not let world devourers use their resources for their own interests and to deal blows at Islamic countries. It is a disgrace for Islamic countries and heads of state that foreigners penetrate the secret military centers of Muslims.

Describing the importance of disavowal and the duty of the Muslims, the imam of the ummah said: Disavowal is the first stage of the struggle. Attaining the next stage is our duty. This requires methods and plans appropriate at that time. One should perceive what must be done in a period such as now, when the leaders of blasphemy and paganism have endangered the existence of monotheism and have made all the national, cultural, religious, and political manifestations the playthings of their whims and wishes. Should one sit at home making incorrect analyses, insulting people, and instilling a spirit of weakness and despondency in Muslims, while tolerating Satan and his offspring in practice?

Stressing the necessity of disavowing the pagans, Imam Khomeyni asserted: Today, our disavowal of the pagans takes the form of cries about the injustices of the oppressors and the cries of a nation which has had enough of the aggressions of East and West, headed by the United States and its lackeys. Our home, country, and wealth have been plundered. Our disavowal is that of all those who no longer will tolerate U.S. rule and the U.S. hegemonistic presence, those who do not want their cries of anger and hatred to be silenced forever, and those who are determined to live free, die free, and speak aloud for individuals.

Imam Khomeyni graciously said: Our disavowal is the cry of the pain and destitution of poor, impoverished, deprived, and barefooted individuals. The fruits of their daily efforts, gained by the sweat of their brow, have been plundered by international capitalists and looters. In the name of capitalism, socialism, and communism, they are sucking the blood of the poor nations, the hard-working peasants and workers. They have monopolized the economic life of the world and have deprived the people of the world from achieving their most basic rights.

Emphasizing that the followers of Islam will never accept a miserable death, the imam of the ummah said: I have prepared my worthless blood and life to perform what God decrees and to do my duty in defending Muslims. I am looking foward to the great blessing of martyrdom. The powers and superpowers and their servants should be aware that even if Khomeyni is abandoned and deserted, he will continue his path -- the path of fighting against blasphemy, tyranny, polytheism, and idolatry. With God's assistance to the Mobilization of the Oppressed forces of the world of Islam --these barefoot individuals who are despised by the dictators -- the world devourers and the lackeys who insist on continuing their tyranny and oppression will not sleep soundly.

Emphasizing the necessity to liberate Jerusalem and to fight against those compromisers who have destroyed the aspirations of the Palestinian nation, Imam Khomeyni graciously stated: As

I have repeatedly warned over past years, both before and after the revolution, I stress once again the danger of the malignant and cancerous cell of Zionism spreading throughout the body of Islamic countries. I announce my unstinting support and that of the Iranian nation, government, and officials for all the Islamic struggles of Islamic nations and heroic Muslim youth along the road to the liberation of Jerusalem. I express my thanks to the dear youths of Lebanon who have brought honor to the Islamic ummah and misery and degradation to the world devourers. I pray for the success of all those beloved ones who, relying upon the weapon of faith and jihad, are delivering blows at Israel and its interests either inside the occupied territories or outside the borders of that usurped country. I assure you that the Iranian nation will not abandon you.

Analyzing the reasons given by the world devourers for the causes of the war, the imam of the ummah emphasized that the Iranian nation has only been attacked because of its desire to follow Islam and to support the Prophet of God. He noted: Not only during the imposed war, but from the very first day of our struggles, from 5 June 1963 [the date of Khomeyni's first uprising against the former regime] to 11 February 1979 [when the Islamic revolution succeeded], we have experienced the same thing. We fully realize that we must pay a great price for a lofty goal and for an Islamic and divine aspiration, and that we must offer precious martyrs. World devourers will not leave us alone. By using their domestic and foreign agents they will attack us and will shed the blood of our beloved ones on the streets, on the roads, and on our borders.

The imam of the ummah graciously said: All Islamic scholars, with knowledge and insight, should walk the precarious path of transforming the capitalist world and communism. With clear-sightedness and by enlightening others, all freedom-lovers should deliver blows against the superpowers, especially the United States, and the other powers. They should show the way to the oppressed people of the deprived Islamic and Third World countries.

With confidence I say that Islam will rub the noses of the superpowers in the dust. Islam will remove all the great obstacles both inside and outside its boundaries one by one and will conquer the key bastions of the world.

Addressing the leaders of world arrogance, Imam Khomeyni affirmed: I emphatically announce to the entire world that if the world devourers wish to confront our religion, we will confront their entire world and will not give up until they are all destroyed. Either all of us will achieve freedom or we will achieve a greater freedom which is martyrdom.

The imam of the ummah noted that we have fought single-handedly and without assistance in the war and in the revolution. Now as we reach the threshold of absolute victory in the war, Saddam and the world devourers have become peace-loving. The imam of the ummah said: Truly what has happened is that the powers of world arrogance, led by the United States, have suddenly become supporters of nations and warmongers. Those who fanned the flames of conflicts and the executioners of the century have found faith in human dignity and peaceful coexistence and have given up their insatiable thirst and their blood-thirsty nature, which are among the prerequisites of the cultures of capitalism and communism. They have sheathed their swords, daggers, and spears which pierced the hearts of nations. Is this reality or deceit? Is this not the other side of the same attitude of oppression and tyranny which once used silence to its advantage and today sees peace as advantageous? Is this not how the world devourers want to prevent our final blow?

Emphasizing the fact that Saddam's desire for peace comes from his weakness and desperation, Imam Khomeyni graciously said: At a time when all suitable conditions exist, when the necessary preparations have been made, and after making thousands of great sacrifices, what sane person would forego continuing the battle against an enemy which is on its deathbed? What sane person would refrain from defending his ideology and his country, giving his enemy another chance to attack our country again at an appropriate time?

Pointing out that Saddam is like a wounded wolf that wants to set fire to all countries and the entire Persian Gulf region, Imam Khomeyni stated: Under these conditions I warn all the leaders of the Persian Gulf countries, all the Eastern and Western superpowers — especially the United States and the USSR — against any interference, adventurism, and hasty decisions. I advise the United States not to place its reason and policy-making powers with regard to the most important political, international, and military issues in the hands of individuals such as Reagan. Reagan is not able to manage these affairs, especially where political issues and decisionmaking are concerned. He needs help from the wise and the thoughtful to ensure that he does not drag the American people to the abyss of destruction.

Imam Khomeyni emphasized that so far the Islamic Republic of Iran has only used a fraction of its capabilities in the Persian Gulf, and he referred to the U.S. defeat in the reflagging issue. He graciously said: It is better for the United States and Reagan not to pursue their policy in the mined Persian Gulf, which has loudly broadcast their disgrace to the world. They should not ride this steed of ignorance and pride which has thrown its riders to the ground numerous times in the past. They should at least maintain the semblance and use of power in the eyes of their servants, such as Kuwait, and not add further to their shame and disgrace because of their defeat and degradation. They should understand that to continue adventurism in the Persian Gulf will force the region to become a center of danger and unwanted crisis against themselves. If the world has prepared itself for an oil crisis and for the disruption of all economic, commercial, and industrial concerns, then we are ready too. We have tightened our belts. Everything is ready for such operations.

Imam Khomeyni then said: Even the United States should concludethat military intervention in the Persian Gulf is not simply an experiment. On the contrary, it would be a big step, a dangerous game. We, along with all the Muslims of the Persian Gulf region, see the superpower presence as a preamble for an invasion of Islamic countries and the Islamic Republic of Iran. We view it as anextension of their support for Saddam.

World Muslims, in cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran's system, should strengthen their resolve and smash the teeth of the United States into its mouth so that they may feast

their eyes on the blossoming flower of freedom and the flourishing of monotheism and of the imamate in the world of the Great Prophet.

The imam of the ummah continued: Undoubtedly, the fate of all ummahs and Islamic countries today is connected with our fate in this war. The Islamic Republic of Iran is at a point where a victory would mean a victory for all Muslims. However, God forbid, its defeat would culminate in the unrequited wishes and humiliation of all the faithful. To abandon a nation, a country, and a great school of thought midway to victory would betray mankind's aspirations and God's Messenger. Having said that, I must add that the war fever in our country will not subside until Saddam is overthrown. God willing, we do not have much longer to go before achieving this objective.

Imam Khomeyni added: All the superpowers, supporters of the declining Ba'th regime, must understand that to internationalize this war, to create a climate of tension and fabricated political propaganda and diplomatic processes against the Islamic Republic of Iran in the world -- as well as military and nonmilitary interventions in the Persian Gulf that increase the difficulties, cause division, and make fruitless and blind (?threats) -- will not deter us from our objective: To overthrow Saddam and the Iraqi Ba'thist Party and to punish the aggressor. With the blessing of God, we will put up with all the pressures and the global embargo to achieve this great objective.

Stressing the need to adhere to the three values of jihad in society, the imam of the ummah said: I take this opportunity to remind all the officials in our country that in the order of priorities of criteria, there is no criterion or value more important than virtue and jihad in the path of God. This valued and divine priority must become the basis for selecting and granting privileges to individuals, making use of facilities, and holding offices. Verbal and common privileges will not suffice -- these things must be implemented both under laws and regulations and in the practice, belief, and behavior of society. The interests of the tortured people, those who have gone to the battlefronts, those who have given martyrs, prisoners, and wounded and, in a word, the interests of the barefoot, the slum-dwellers, and the oppressed, must have priority over the interests of the affluent and the prosperous, those who love comfort, and those who run away from the battlefront, jihad, virtue, and Islamic order.

The imam of the ummah then stated: Every effort should be made to prevent newcomers, those who have sold their religion in return for earthly pleasures, and those who will not fight infidels and poverty from distorting our revolution's persona lest they stain the prestige of our authorities by their defense of ungodly, affluent people.

Those who are slumbering in luxurious mansions, who are free from all the sufferings and intolerable calamities experienced by individuals, and who are the firm foundations of the revolution — the deprived, barefooted people — have simply been bystanders. Those who have not even felt the heat of the fire from their positions must not hold key responsibilities. Once they have access to such positions, then, who knows, they might sell the revolution overnight, thus allowing the fruits of all the hard work done by the nation to be blown away by the wind.

Emphasizing the grave mission of Islamic ulema to rescue Islam from isolation and to fight against pseudo-clergy and religious opportunists, the imam said: The committed Islamic clerics must speak up about the grave danger emanating from the devious ulema and courtier clerics to Islamic communities, because these ignorant individuals justify dictatorships and the oppression of dependent leaders. They prevent the oppressed people from receiving their legitimate rights. They issue rulings when necessary and brand fighters and freedom-seekers in God's service as adulterers and infidels. May God save all Muslim nations from the ominous presence and oppression of these unworthy and religious opportunists.

The imam said: Is it not a disgrace for ulema and Islamic countries to issue blasphemous decrees and regulations in their Islamic countries -- despite the existence of the Holy Koran, the illuminating Islamic precepts, and the prophets' traditions, as well as those of the immaculate imams -- where decisions dictated by possessors of gold, power, and conspiracies — the true opponents of Islam — are implemented?

Stressing the role of clerics in social issues, the imam said: Although governments and individuals subservient to the superpowers have embarked on an earnest fight against Muslims and, like the Indian Government, are resorting to a massacre of innocent, helpless, and freedom-loving Muslims, they will never dare, nor have the power, to close down mosques and Muslim places of worship on a permanent basis. The light of love and knowledge of millions of Muslims is something they cannot extinguish. Meanwhile, the closing of the Islamic ulema's mosques, religious and political centers, and even the hanging of the Islamic ulema in public will prove the repression of Islam. It will result in Muslims' giving more attention and adhering to spirituality.

On the need for the ulema, clergymen, and specialists to put forward Islamic economic plans to combat the capitalist and Bolshevik economies, the imam of the ummah said: Proposing plans -- and basically clarifying the direction of the Islamic economy in line with safeguarding the interests of the deprived and increasing their cooperation and Islam's fight against gold hoarders -- is considered the greatest of gifts and glad tidings of man's liberation from poverty and destitution. To point out that the wealthy should never infiltrate governments, rulers, and those running an Islamic country because of their financial position nor impose their own wishes and ideas on the poor, needy, and toilers, is the greatest factor for the people's participation in affairs and their tendency toward noble and sublime standards.

Reiterating the duty of all those in office, directors, leaders, and clergymen, to get close to and befriend the poor, the barefoot people, and the needy, the imam of the ummah said: I hope that we do not see the day when our policy and that of our country's officials is to turn our backs on the defense of the deprived and move toward the protection of capitalists, allowing the rich to become more important. God forbid, this is contrary to the ways of the prophets, the Lord of the Pious, and the innocent imams, peace be upon them.

Stressing the point that one hair on the head of slum-dwellers and those who have given martyrs is more important and more

honorable than all the palace dwellers in the world, the imam of the ummah said: We must not forget the dutiful attention given by the deprived to the revolution and their undying support for Islam, and not respond to them.

Imam Khomeyni said: As an old father, I humbly ask all my children and the dear clergy to perform their holy duties and to stay away from worldly luxuries and glitter — which are beneath the position of the clergy and the standards of the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran — for God has favored the ulema and clergy and has assigned them the task of propagating the word of the prophets. They should beware that there is no greater danger and threat to their life and afterlife than seeking worldly comforts. Thank God, the committed clergymen of Islam have passed their test of piety.

On the necessity for the presence of Iranian pilgrims at the disavowal march to preserve revolutionary order and invite Muslims to take part in this politico-ideological affair, and to refrain from arbitary behavior, Imam Khomeyni said: On my behalf and on behalf of all the Iranian people, I assure all Muslims that the Islamic Republic of Iran is behind you and supports your struggles and Islamic programs. It stands alongside you in every trench, against the aggressors, and, God willing, defends your past, present, and future rights. Tell them that the might and credibility of the Islamic Republic of Iran belong to all Islamic nations and that to defend the heroic and brave people of Iran is, in effect, to defend all oppressed nations.

Imam Khomeyni said: The honorable Iranian pilgrims have a better grasp of the value of spiritual and political achievements by the Islamic Republic of Iran when meeting with other Muslims. By learning of the problems and difficulties of other Islamic nations, they gain a better understanding of the depths of the greatness of the revolution and the special blessings that the Almighty and the attention of the Lord of the Ages — may our souls be sacrificed onto Him — has given to this nation. They appreciate the blessings of this revolution more than before. They learn about the efforts of the honorable officials and the government that helps the people who spend every minute of their time in service.

Velayati Terms Khomeyni's Health 'Excellent'

LD290918 Hamburg DPA in German 0835 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Hamburg (DPA) -- Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati has said in an interview with the Hamburg magazine *Stern* that the Tehran leadership is making intensive efforts to secure the release of Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt, the two West Germans kidnapped in Lebanon. However, he cannot give a date for their release. Humanitarian aid could be quick, but it "could also take several years," Velayati said in the latest edition of *Stern*.

Velayati affirmed that the leader of the Iranian revolution, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, continues to determine the country's policy. Velayati discusses the current situation with the leader of the revolution at least once every 2 weeks, the last time being shortly before his official visit to Bonn last Friday.

Velayati described the health of 86-year-old Khomeyni as excellent. According to the Iranian foreign minister, Khomeyni walks "several kilometers a day."

Rafiqdust Threatens Worldwide Retaliation

OW290907 Tokyo KYODO in English 0900 GMT 29 Jul 87

[By Masud Hashemi]

[Text] Tehran, July 29 KYODO — Iran will strike at U.S. military, economic and political facilities around the world if the U.S. attacks Iranian installations first, Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of Iran's Revolution Guards, said.

In an exclusive interview with *Kyodo News Service* Tuesday, Rafiqdust also said all tankers in the Persian Gulf, including Japanese, would be considered targets for an Iranian retaliatory strike against ships doing business with Kuwait.

"Exceptions in war are meaningless" Rafiqdust said, adding that the only way ships can avoid being hit in the Persian Gulf is not to carry cargo to or from Kuwait, one of Iraq's key allies in the Gulf war.

He said, "We are ready for a confrontation with the United States, but whether this is probable or not depends on the Washington administration. If they are wise they will not come to war with us, but if they are willing to commit such madness, we are ready to retaliate in such a way that the U.S. cannot suitably defend against."

He added, "We announce here that if the United States attacked our ports and installations, we would carry out such attacks on U.S. military, economic and political installations all over the world, that they will never think of attacking Iran again."

Asked about Iran's strategy in the Persian Gulf, he said, "We believe there should be no war in the sea, but if our interests in the Gulf are endangered we will attack ships, ports and installations of the countries in the region who are supporting Iraq," Rafiqdust said.

The minister said Iran was capable of a variety of retaliatory measures in the Persian Gulf conflict, including surface-to-surface missile attacks on Kuwait. He also said Iran could close the Strait of Hormuz. Asked if the measures for doing so might include kamikaze attacks he replied, "Yes, many times more beautiful than that."

Rafiqdust accused Iraq of continuing to use chemical weapons in the Gulf war, and targetting civilian rather than military areas. The minister said the change in Iraqi tactics is due to Iran's "neutralization measures," adding that if Iraq's attacks continue, "the possibility of retaliation by the same weapons is very high."

Rafiqdust also said a possible U.N.-imposed arms embargo on his country would be ineffective since Iran already produces 80 to 90 percent of its military hardware. "There are plenty of arms

markets in the world that are looking for dollars and are deaf to a Security Council arms embargo," he added.

Velayati on Possible Attacks Against U.S. Ships

AU281535 Paris AFP in English 1514 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Geneva, July 28 (AFP) — Iran could attack U.S. ships in the Gulf or launch a direct attack against Kuwaiti territory, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said at a press conference here Tuesday.

Mr. Velayati, who was answering questions about the possibility of an Iranian attack against U.S. ships escorting Kuwaiti-owned oil tankers through the Gulf, said: "We will defend our interests in the Gulf where they are threatened, and when it comes to defending ourselves we will not make any restrictions."

He strongly criticized Kuwait, which he said had supported Iraq in its war against Iran by transporting arms and selling oil to Iraq, and allowing Iraqi ships and aircraft to use Kuwaiti ports and airspace.

Mr. Velayati said that if Kuwait kept up its support for Iraq, it should expect reprisals by Iranian forces, which could attack Kuwaiti territory or offshore installations. "We will employ all means to defend our integrity," Mr. Velayati said.

A statement issued by Iranian diplomats here during the press conference said that oil transported by Kuwaiti-owned U.S.-registered ships belonged to Iraq, and was thus to be considered "war contraband." The statement called the U.S. presence in the Gulf "a serious source of provocation."

Asked if the mine which damaged Kuwaiti-owned U.S. tanker *Bridgeton* in the Gulf last Friday while under U.S. naval escort, was Iranian, Mr. Velayati replied "anything is possible" near a war zone.

Mr. Velayati said the Soviet Union had done nothing to increase tension in the Gulf, calling the Soviet attitude "positive." On July 3 the Soviet Union had proposed the withdrawal of all warships in the region not belonging to Gulf states.

Mr. Velayati said that Iran had rejected a United Nations Security Council resolution adopted on July 20 calling for a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq because the Security Council had failed to ask Iraqi forces to withdraw from Iran when they first invaded.

He also condemned the Security Council for its "weakness" in allowing Iraq to violate Geneva accords banning chemical weapons. [passage omitted]

'Bitterly' Attacks United Nations

AU281320 Paris AFP in English 1314 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Geneva, July 28 (AFP) — Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati bitterly attacked the U.N. Security Council here on Tuesday for its "weakness" in allowing Iraq to "repeatedly" violate Geneva accords banning chemical weapons.

Speaking at the UN disarmament conference, Mr. Velayati said that the Security Council had given Iraq "a free hand to pursue its crimes" of using chemical weapons in the Gulf war against Iran. He compared the June 28 Iraqi air raid on Sardasht, in which "hundreds of innocent civilians died" with the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.

"The use of chemical weapons by Iraq was so great that when UN experts arrived in the region several days later, contamination levels were still very high," Mr. Velayati said. "Some of the inhabitants injured by gas are still in European hospitals."

The disarmament conference is currently negotiating a new international convention banning the use of chemical weapons, but Mr. Velayati said that he doubted the UN Security Council could enforce it. The Security Council was incapable of "a concerted effort at the political level" and had proved "submissive" after the attack on Sardasht, Mr. Velayati claimed.

Singling out the United States for criticism, Tehran's representative added that Washington "had gone so far in its support for Iraq that it prevented the Security Council from receiving the technical report on the genocide in Sardasht and discussing the subject."

On July 21, Iran refused to abide by a unanimous Security Council resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in the Gulf war. The resolution was "unjust," Iranian officials said, because it did not say that Iraq had started the war.

Condemns Chemical Weapons

LD281914 Tehran IRNA in English 1729 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said at the Geneva disarmament conference today that the strategically significant Islamic Republic of Iran is under constant and direct threat of conventional, chemical and nuclear weapons. He said Iran attaches great importance to deliberations and endeavors of the conference and expressed hope that it would take the right action to deter Iraq from using outlawed chemical weapons.

Below is Dr. Velayati's speech at the confab:

The world is moving towards arms proliferation and arsenal expansion with an accelerated speed. The arms race has been extended from land, sea and air to outerspace which can lead to the extinction of humanity. At the current state of affairs, the conference on disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating body sheds rays of hopes to prevent the "doomsday scenarios" from happening. The existence of the risk is enough, for the worst only needs to happen once. That is why I am delighted to be here among you once again today to rehearse the information on the issue together.

As a country of great strategic significance, the Islamic Republic of Iran is not only under constant and direct threat of conven-

tional and chemical weapons but it also faces the perils of nuclear weapons indirectly. As a result, we accord special importance to deliberations and endeavours of this conference. The continued and wide-scale use of chemical and toxic weapons by Iraq at a time when negotiations on new convention of chemical weapons are underway has drawn our attention to the items being discussed in this conference.

You should have recently heard about the terrifying reports coming from the Iranian city of Sardasht which seem to have numbed us with their repetition. The residential areas in this city were subjected to the most brutal chemical bombardments causing the death of hundreds of innocent people. This was not the first time that Iran was subjected to chemical weapons attack and it was not the first time that civilian areas and residential quarters were targets of chemical assault. But this was the first time that a city in its totality was poisoned by the Iraqi forces. The use of chemical arms so vast that even several days later when the U.N. specialists despatched to the area arrived in the city, the afflicted areas were still highly contaminated. A number of wounded inhabitants are still in European hospitals. I strongly recommend you who are directly involved in important negotiations of the new chemical convention to visit these patients and see for yourselves the dreadful effects of these destructive weapons. Among the injured there are individuals who were witnesses to loss of members of their families while they themselves have been chemically afflicted. I am confident that observing such crimes will contribute to the redoubling of your efforts and arriving at definite and final agreement on chemical weapons convention.

Despite achievements being made in these talks which have made an agreement closer at hand, the non-compliance with the present agreements reveal grim prospects for the future. The Geneva protocol of 1925 is much more primitive than the present convention having less complexity than the present deliberations.

The undertaking of countries has given sufficient strength to the protocol. In the meantime, it has not set concrete measures for verification and use which constitute the main part of the new convention. Yet, confirmed use of chemical weapons by Iraq vividly shows that verification can be successfully conducted, but in the absence of a firm political will, prevention of the use of chemical weapons, their production, development and stockpiling will not be possible.

We are preparing a convention in this conference whose application in the end will depend on the activities of other organs of the United Nations including the Security Council. It is therefore proper to pose the question whether the council has been able to reflect necessary capability and political will vis-a-vis the confirmed reports of the use of chemical weapons. The answer is axiomatic. If the Security Council has been faced with political considerations in regard with repeated violation of Geneva protocol by Iraq and has not been able to take effective measures, it is evident that no decisive decision can be expected of this body in assuring compliance with the provisions of the new convention.

In the latest report of the U.N. secretary-general to the Security Council, it has been stipulated and I quote "Technically there is little more that we can do that is likely to assist the United Nations in its efforts to prevent the use of chemical weapons in the present conflict. [no closing quotation marks as received] In our view, only concerted efforts at the political level can be effective in ensuring that all the signatories of the Geneva Protocol of 1925 abide by their obligations. Otherwise, if the protocol is irreparably weakened after 60 years of general international respect, this may lead, in the future, to the world facing the spectre of the threat of biological weapons. We can therefore conclude that there is no technical obstacle for a political decision.

The Security Council in response to this important report issued a statement on 14 May 1987 which contained nothing more than the statement of 21 March 1986. The council knew well that the previous statements not only did not prevent Iraq from repeating such barbaric acts but rather they encouraged Iraq to violate the protocol more flagrantly and freely. In fact, following the 1986 statement, Iraq celebrated 1987 by generalizing the use of chemical weapons to the civilians.

The toothless statement of 14 May 1987 proved that the Security Council substantially lacks the capability of "concerted efforts at the political level" despite the open request of the secretary-general.

The prevailing political atmosphere has prevented the council from taking any fundamental position let alone any just decision. We cautioned the international community at that time that such compromising and weak moves would embolden Iraq to intensify its crimes and we desperately regret that it so happened.

The Iraqi chemical attack on the city of Sardasht has been unprecedented in the history of contemporary wars. Encyclopedia and history books should record the name of this innocent city as a shame [words indistinct] humanity. Yet the Security Council remained motionless and submissive and even worse than that discouraged the secretary-general from any future action or initiative.

The Iraqi regime in a bid to justify its crimes has announced that it would halt its violation of international law only if the way is ended. [sentence as received] Ironically enough, the United States which had [words indistinct] use of chemical weapons by Iraq has gone so far in supporting Iraq that it even prevents the council from discussing the subject and receiving a technical report on the genocide of the people of [words indistinct].

In other words, the U.S. is condoning deployment of chemical weapons in the war and justifies its control only in peace time. The (?United States) clear stances on the issue in the past are now following the [word indistinct] policy due to their bilateral political considerations.

[Words indistinct] considers a nuclear attack in retaliation to a chemical assault on cities possible. How can this indifference vis-a-vis the Sardasht catastrophe be interpreted? Do not claim that the council has not ignored the fact and has condemned the use of poisonous gases in its latest resolution. It has been for the third consecutive year that such showcase position is being repeated while the Iraqi crimes are constantly increasing. Not only has the council refrained from concerted effort at the

political level, it has not even made a binding call to Iraq to end its chemical attacks. It is evident that the weak positions of the Security Council have given a carte blanche to Iraq to perpetuate its illegal and inhuman crimes.

Velayati in his address also spoke on the need to curb the nuclear arms race with a view to ultimately eliminating these horrible weapons entirely.

Musavi on 29 July Cabinet Session, Imam's Message

LD291246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] The cabinet met today. During an interview with our correspondent at the end of this meeting, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi announced the following: In this session we heard a report on the historic and very important message of his excellency the imam. This message is one of the important documents of the Islamic Revolution.

Due to the importance of the case, we decided to discuss the topic in the government commissions and each commission, depending on its specialization, will work on the message. Parts that can be directly utilized by the government, regarding procedures, policies, and objectives, will be extracted. The parts of the imam of the ummah's message that we heard are very important and eliminate many doubts.

This message can help the government to adopt clear policies on various problems, such as foreign and domestic policies, support for the oppressed, and economic policy.

The prime minister stressed that the imam of the ummah has graciously said in his message that in the Islamic Republic regime, the highest priority in management will be given to questions of the revolutionary record and struggle of individuals, as well as the degree of their sacrifice and Islamic conviction. Those who work side by side with the oppressed, or those who have endured hardships for this revolution must have the greatest level of application [as heard] in the executive establishment. We must pay attention to this.

In conclusion, the prime minister referred to the debate at today's cabinet session on the war. He said: Due to our fighters' sacrifices in various battlefields -- as well as the recent operations at the fronts at Al-Faw, the Majnun Islands, Sumar, and Maymak -- the enemy has received a blow.

Our brothers in the Revolution Guards Corps and the Army have made widespread sacrifices. They have inflicted considerable damage on the Saddam regime.

At today's cabinet session, the sacrifices of the personnel of the Army's ground forces, as well as their resistance, were noted. They stood side by side with the Army aviation and the Air Force and inflicted damages on the Iraqi ruling regime forces.

The prime minister added: The government has stood by all the combatants in order to bring this war to a victorious end, God willing.

USSR's Vorontsov Reportedly To Visit Tehran

LD282132 Tehran IRNA in English 1828 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov repeated his country's plan on withdrawal of all foreign warships from the Persian Gulf and an end to attacks on ships as a principal solution to the current crisis. The Soviet official also reiterated his country's support for Iran's stance in the Persian Gulf during a meeting with Iranian Ambassador to Moscow Naser Hayrani-Nobari, in the Soviet capital Tuesday.

Vorontsov said the U.S. military expedition to the Persian Gulf under the pretext of escorting Kuwait ships contradicts the Security Council resolution as well as international efforts to reduce tension in the region.

In response, Hayrani-Nobari said the Islamic Republic's resistance against the U.S. aggression in the region will continue powerfully and strongly. The Muslim people of the region, he added, will turn any show of power by the U.S. into its (U.S.) meek submission. Also discussed at the meeting was Vorontsov's upcoming visit to Tehran.

Commentary on U.S., Western Presence in Gulf

LD271436 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1114 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Station commentary: "Hegemony in the Persian Gulf by the Arrogant Front"]

[Text] After a Kuwaiti oil tanker hit a mine in Persian Gulf waters and in view of the vulnerability of U.S. warships and the dangerous consequences of the plan to protect Kuwaiti ships under the pretext of heightened tension in the Persian Gulf, the French Government yesterday ordered its Mediterranean fleet to steam to the Persian Gulf as soon as possible.

Additionally, the day before yesterday — that is, 1 day before the Kuwaiti ship hit a mine — a Kuwaiti shipowner announced that he had reached an agreement in principle with the British authorities to have one of his ships registered in Gibraltar. One should remember that several days before the plan to escort Kuwaiti ships began, the British Government, in response to a Kuwaiti request, announced that this is not a government decision. At the same time it authorized commercial companies to respond positively to Kuwait's request, if they wished, thereby using British warships to protect ships flying the British flag or any flag of a British protectorate. The delegation of such decisions to commercial companies will, in effect, shield the British Government from internal divisions. In such circumstances, if the tension escalates and U.S. forces are at an impasse, the British Government would be in a position to stop protecting Kuwaiti tankers with its warships in a reputable manner under the pretext that the agreement between Kuwait and Britain was not decided at the government level.

At any rate, dispatching the French fleet to the Persian Gulf and Britian's agreement to provide ships to Kuwait -- at a time when the plan to escort Kuwaiti ships has disclosed U.S. weakness and vulnerability in the Persian Gulf -- show that Washington's allies

intend to minimize the U.S. weaknesses by expanding their arrogant front against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Furthermore, based on their autocratic logic, these powers believe that by displaying their sophisticated military hardware and their teeth and claws to the Islamic revolution, they can force the Islamic Republic to compromise and capitulate.

Contrary to all these foolish ideas, however, the Muslim nation of Iran has shown that when it comes into direct confrontation with arrogant powers, it maintains its morale and does not worry about the consequences of the confrontation. Moreover, it results in renewed enthusiasm and firmness among the arisen Iranian ummah. This is a point which even a great many Western commentators admit.

The presence of British and French forces next to U.S. forces will ultimately cause this display of weakness to spread from the United States to other Washington allies. Under such circumstances, a blow to one party is in fact a blow to all.

In its fight against U.S. imperialism and its Western allies, our nation is prepared to make clear once again the vulnerability of the combined forces before the entire world and all the oppressed nations of the world.

This is the case unless the United States and its supporters, in an objective approach, force the Iraqi Government to refrain from creating tension in the Persian Gulf, thus reestablishing security in the region.

Otherwise, the United States and its allies must experience apprehension and anxiety and incur millions of dollars of expenses daily. However, this would only be the beginning. The consequences would be far more bitter than they imagine.

Larijani Briefs Khamene'i on Pakistan Visit

LD270927 Tehran IRNA in English 0908 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 27, IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister for International and Economic Affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani who is back from a visit to Islamabad met and submitted President 'Ali Khamene'i a message from Pakistan's President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq here Sunday.

Larijani briefed President Khamene'i on the outcome of his talks with Pakistani president, and Pakistan's premier and foreign minister on matters of mutual interest including expansion of Iran-Pakistan relations, the situation in Afghanistan and Persian Gulf developments.

Larijani said to the president that during his stay in Pakistan the Pakistani officials had expressed identical views with him on the need for maintaining peace at the Persian Gulf and defusing tension in the region.

In response, President Khamene'i expressed pleasure with the report and briefed Larijani on follow-up meetings with Pakistani officials.

Sudanese, Sri Lankan Muslims Meet Karrubi in Mecca

NC280802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Groups of Sudanese and Sri Lankan clergymen met in Mecca yesterday with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mehdi Karrubi, the imam's representative and the supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims. Our correspondent in Mecca has sent us a report which we invite you to listen to.

[Begin recording] A group of Sudanese ulema and Friday imams met yesterday afternoon with Mr Karrubi, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims. During this meeting, the Sudanese clergymen expressed their support for the Islamic revolution and for the imam of the ummah, as well as their support for the fighters of Islam in confronting the Baghdad regime. They stated: We deeply regret the fact that we have been unable to fight alongside the forces of Islam against blasphemy and discord. However, we are happy that we are with you in our thoughts, writings, and deeds, and we believe that in a jihad the pen is no less mighty than the sword. The Sudanese ulema also said: The Islamic revolution does not concern Iran alone. We believe that it belongs to all Muslims in the world.

In conclusion, the group stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran is the only system in the world that is truly nonaligned in relation to both the East and the West and prayed for the health and long life of the imam of the ummah.

Mr Karrubi then referred to the Islamic revolution's world view, which takes into consideration the interests of Muslims everywhere. He described the defense of the Muslims of Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan, and India as examples of the Islamic revolution's political approach and noted the importance of the Islamic ulema role in defending Islam.

In conclusion, he said: The imam of the ummah has issued a very important message concerning the interests of the world's Muslims. This message will be conveyed to the Islamic ummah during the march to condemn paganism which will be held in Mecca.

Yesterday afternoon a group of Sri Lankan ulema also met with Mr. Karrubi. During this meeting, the group submitted a report on the situation of Sri Lankan Muslims and stated that each day more people join the supporters of Iran's Islamic revolution. Mr Karrubi then stated that the Islamic Republic supports Muslims throughout the world and wished the Sri Lankan people every success.

This is the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Mecca. [end recording]

Spokesman Denies Reported Shelling of Iraqi Towns

LD281442 Tehran IRNA in English 1418 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — Iran today categorically denied an Iraqi claim on Monday that it had shelled residential areas of Qal'at Dizah and Raniyah towns.

A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) described the Iraqi claim as "pure fabrication" saying that it is the Iraqi regime which routinely shells residential areas in the Iranian cities of Khorramshahr, Baneh and Salehabad.

Two Provinces Send 30,000 'Martyrdom' Volunteers

LD281525 Tehran IRNA in English 1450 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — Over 30,000 Basij forces of Bushehr and Hormozgan Provinces have been organized to participate in 'Shahadat' (martyrdom) manoeuvres to be held by the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) naval forces in the Persian Gulf in August.

The Basij forces sent a signed scroll to 'Moqaddam' headquarters of the IRGC's naval forces, announcing their full preparedness to safeguard the Persian Gulf.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Iraqi Positions in Maymak Hit

LD281022 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — Iranian fighter bombers pounded Iraqi group concentration centers, armoured hardware, and fortifications in Maymak operational theater, western fronts, three times Tuesday morning. The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces in a communique here said heavy losses in men and equipment were inflicted on the enemy. The communique added that all the Iranian fighter bombers returned safely to their base after successfully carrying out their mission.

Communique No 2,911

LD281624 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed Iraqi troop concentration sites and armoured units in Maymak operational theater four times Tuesday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy forces. The fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing missions which took place at 04:14, 05:38, 07:30 and 11:20 GMT.

Announcing the above, the 2911th Joint Staff Communique reported here today that Muslim forces of Iran smashed three Iraqi counterattacks to retake Maymak Heights Monday, killing or wounding a large number of enemy soldiers.

Fifty five Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several enemy gun emplacements and eight vehicles destroyed in parts of the war fronts in artillery duels with Iranian combatants yesterday.

Iraqi troops suffered several casualties and two enemy command jeeps and 15 emplacements of various weapons were destroyed in parts of the southern fronts by Iranian gendarmerie forces yesterday.

Iranian Navy gunboats intercepted and searched nine cargo ships and oil tankers in the Straight of Hormuz Monday but found no suspicious cargo aboard them.

The navy coastal artillery fire shelled Iraq's Al-Bakr and Al-'Amayah oil platforms in the northern tip of the Persian Gulf and consequently disrupted movement of enemy vessels around them yesterday.

Movement of Iraqi motorized and armoured units were checked in Sayyid Sadiq, Kharratha, Helaleh, and Neykhazar [place name as received] Monday, the communique concluded.

600 Iraqis Killed in Maymak

LD281954 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] The fighters of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, continuing their epic-making operations in the Maymak operational theater, severely crushed two further enemy operations launched at 0530 and 0900 this morning aimed at penetrating our positions.

The enemy forces were forced to retreat. IRNA reports that in these operations, in addition to the complete destruction of the fourth battalions of the Commando Brigade of the Iraqi 1st Special Corps, more than 600 Iraqi troops were killed, bringing the total of enemy killed in recent days to more than 2,000.

The report says that the Islamic combatants, supported in these operations by Air Force fighter bombers and Army Air Corps aircraft, took a large number of enemy troops prisoner. So far 87 of them, including 13 officers, have been transferred behind the lines. Second lieutenant (Qasim Jabal), a commando, who has been taken prisoner by the combatants of Islam in these operations, has stated that the commander of the Commando Brigade of the Iraqi 1st Corps, named Colonel (Hasan Tariq), was killed today in the highlands west of Maymak. The deputy commander of the battalion and two company commanders of the battalion were also killed.

Iraqi Peshmerga's Operations

LD282016 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] According to a report from the Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular warfare of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, during the past few days the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdestan's forces went into action against an Iraqi base situated between the towns of (Dorayen) and Darband-i Khan in Iraq, killing 55 members of the Zionist regime of Iraq and capturing 10 others. Four heavy artillery pieces, several pieces of 120-mm artillery, several mortar launchers, several military vehicles of various makes, and communication equipment belonging to the enemy were destroyed or set on fire.

The report from Ramadan Headquarters also states: The fighting Peshmerga of Iraqi Kurds carried out ambush oper-

ations during the past few days in the Qada'-Karim region of Sulaymaniyah Province. They succeeded in arresting five members of the Zionist regime and captured intact two military vehicles, together with four long-range radio sets.

Another report from Ramadan Headquarters states: The fighting Peshmerga of Iraqi Kurds, during the past few days in the Irbil region of Iraq, laid an ambush at the (Gumuri axis) killing a number of Iraqi forces, wounding others, and capturing their vehicle.

In retaliation for this action by the prshmerga, the Ba'thist mercenaries attacked the village of Kuh-e Chatra, but the attacks met with Peshmerga resistance.

The enemy was forced to retreat from the region, leaving 15 dead and 1 prisoner behind. The person in charge of the intelligence of the town of (Goyer), identified as 'Abdallah Ahvazi, was among the dead.

During these operations, five military vehicles of various makes were set ablaze and two Toyotas were taken by the Peshmerga.

The same report states that a Ba'thist enemy base at the Shaqlawa-Harir axis was captured by the fighting Iraqi Kurdish Pershmerga.

During the operation, five members of the enemy forces stationed at the base were either killed or wounded.

The Peshmerga also captured a quantity of weapons.

250 More Iraqi Casualties

LD282123 Tehran IRNA in English 1829 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Ilam, July 28, IRNA — 250 more Iraqi forces were killed and wounded and scores of others captured when Iranian Muslim combatants attacked enemy positions in Maymak heights Tuesday, routing the rest of Iraqi Brigade 705 and Commando Brigade of the enemy's First Corps.

Some 40 tanks and personnel carriers, one munitions dump and eight vehicles of enemy forces were set afire by the Iranian combatants who fortified their positions in the region.

Maymak, Sumar Operations

LD291035 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 29, IRNA — Muslim forces of Iran shelled Iraqi positions in Maymak and Sumar operational theaters, western fronts, during the past 24 hours.

The Muslim combatants killed 12 Iraqi troops and destroyed over 12 individual bunkers and observation posts, a multiple rocket launcher, two munition depots, and two supply bridges.

Meanwhile, Iraqi Kurdish combatants in an ambush on an Iraqi personnel carrier killed 12 Iraqis and destroyed their vehicle in Babazied [name as received] region, Sulaymaniyah Province, Tuesday night.

Senate Discusses Recent Terrorism, Bomb Blasts

BK281122 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] The Senate today held discussion on adjournment motions on bomb blast incidents and terrorist activities in the country. Winding up the debate, the interior minister, Mr Wasim Sajjad, said the government fully recognizes its responsibility for taking all measures to protect life, honor, and property of the people. He said recent incidents of bomb blasts in various cities have rightly shaken the people and sent a wave of indignation throughout the country. He said, however, Pakistan is not the only country facing this problem. No country can fight terrorism all alone. We need strength and support of the people, and in fact, this has been shown by the people in the recent times. The government has set up antiterrorist cell at the federal level and antiterrorism training of the police is underway. The federal minister said in the last 6 months 10 saboteurs have been arrested in the NWFP and 11 in Baluchistan.

Replying to the points raised by the members, the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, gave a resume of the events and situation around Pakistan and said the country cannot escape from overflow of sparks as a result of the situation around it.

About Afghanistan, he said movements have been set in motion for early settlement of the issue which, he hoped, would be lasting, permanent, and sound. Pakistan would not be found wanting and rigid on its stand on the Afghanistan problem. If the attitude of the other side was positive and constructive, Pakistan shall go more than half way to achieve the settlement. The House will now meet again tomorrow morning at 1000.

Foreign Minister Views Soviet Statements

BK281642 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Excerpts] The Senate today held discussion on adjournment motions on bombing incidents and terrorist activities in the country. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan replied to questions raised by Senate members and summarized current events and the situation around Pakistan. As for Afghanistan, he said that efforts have been intensified to find an early settlement for this problem.He expressed hope that such a settlement will be lasting, permanent, and sound. The foreign minister added that when such a time arrives, Pakistan would not be found wanting or rigid on its stand on the Afghanistan problem. If the other side's attitude is positive and constructive, then Pakistan would spare no efforts to achieve a settlement.

The foreign minister said that since Gorbachev came into power, he has several times reiterated the USSR's intention to seek a solution to the problem. During his visit to New Delhi, the Soviet leader had expressed the desire not only for improving India-Pakistan relations, but also for settling regional problems, including Afghanistan. Our aim, he said, is to try to realistically analyze the statements issued by the Kremlin. It seems that the Soviet Union has now recognized the fact that its intervention in Afghanistan was a mistake, one that it now wants to rectify.

The foreign minister said the question of a reconciliation government in Afghanistan has assumed importance, and that it is now for the Afghan people to arrive at a nonpartisan personality. As for itself, Pakistan has never opposed a proposal of this kind. He stated that the proposal for reconciliation is currently being forwarded under the sponsorship of Najibullah. Therefore, to hope that the mujahidin will accept any such proposal on reconciliation under his regime is unfair and unacceptable. [passage omitted]

Officials Sworn In; New Interior Minister Noted

BK281534 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] National Assembly member Sajjad Haider and two ministers of state — Nisar Mohammad Khan and Major General Mohammad Bashir Khan, retired — were sworn in as federal ministers in Rawalpindi this evening. Sajjad Haider has been given the Department of Education, while Nisar Mohammad Khan will head the Department of Culture and Tourism. Maj Gen Mohammad Bashir Khan will head the Department of Production.

Malik Nasim Ahmad Ahir has been appointed minister for interior. The new ministers were sworn in by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq at a simple ceremony at the presidential palace. Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, federal ministers, senior officials, and other persons were in attendance.

15 More Reported Killed in NWFP Clashes

BK290235 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] A press note issued in Peshawar says that stray incidents of firing have been reported from various areas of the Kurram Agency, especially Jering Kurram and Alizhai. Fifteen people have been killed and 40 others have been injured. The press note adds that the government has taken steps to establish a tribal assembly that will evolve ways and means to solve differences and establish lasting peace.

Tehran Radio on Islamabad Anti-U.S. Demonstrations

NC290646 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Yesterday the Pakistani people participated in anti-U.S. demonstrations in which they condemned Washington's policies in the Persian Gulf and burned a U.S. flag. We have a report on this:

[Begin telephone recording] A group of Pakistanis has demonstrated against the United States in the center of Islamabad and strongly condemned the U.S. presence and intervention in the Persian Gulf.

During these protests, which were organized by various Pakistani political and religious organizations, the demonstrators marched along prearranged routes and gathered in the center of the Pakistani capital. They also chanted slogans such as "God is great," "Death to America," "War, war until America's destruction," and "America must leave the Persian Gulf." In this way they expressed their hatred and aversion toward U.S. policies and their support for the Islamic Republic's positions on developments in the Persian Gulf and the imposed war. The demonstrators also carried placards bearing the following slogans: "The U.S. attempt in the Persian Gulf is a warning to the world of Islam," "The world's Muslims are warring against imperialist powers," "Iran's Persian Gulf is America's graveyard," and "America is the enemy of the Shi'ites and Sunnis." They burned a U.S. flag, then listened to speeches by a number of clergymen and political and legal dignitaries.

In his speech, the leader of Pakistan's Islamic Brotherhood Movement condemned America's policies against the Islamic world, stating: U.S. intervention in the Persian Gulf is tantamount to an attempt against the Islamic world. He added: We, the Pakistani nation, condemn the plots engineered jointly by America, France, and Britain against the Islamic Republic of Iran. We will not remain silent in the face of plots by world arrogance against the Islamic revolution.

Mr Syed Hussain Shah, a prominent lawyer from Rawalpindi, in his speech declared: America has come to the Persian Gulf to prevent the inevitable downfall of the aggressive Iraqi regime. However, it has committed a grave error, for it will drown in the Persian Gulf. He called on the Pakistani regime to avoid U.S. pressures and to support the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The demonstrations ended peacefully with prayers for Imam Khomeyni and for the victory of all the world's Islam's combatants.

This is the correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Islamabad. [end recording]

India'a Gandhi Arrives for Talks With Jayewardene

BK290850 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, now on a 2-day visit to Sri Lanka, had talks with the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, in Colombo this afternoon. The two leaders were together without aides for about 45 minutes. Details of the talks were not immediately available, but our special correspondent, Harish Awasthi, understands that practical steps to implement the proposed India-Sri Lankan agreement were discussed. The discussions also covered Indo-Sri Lankan cooperation in political, cultural, and educational fields. Earlier, Mr Rajiv Gandhi arrived in Colombo this morning. [passage omitted]

Leaders Sign Peace Accord

BK291044 Hong Kong AFP in English
1042 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Colombo, July 29 (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene signed an agreement here Wednesday aimed at ending the island's Tamil conflict, officials said.

Mr. Jayewardene was due to record a statement on the agreement for broadcast later in the day over television and the two leaders were to hold a joint press conference, officials said.

The signing ceremony took place behind closed doors at the Presidential Palace.

The text of the agreement was due to be released shortly, officials said.

Delhi Gives Details of Accord

BK291250 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] India and Sri Lanka today signed a historic accord with far-reaching impact on bilateral relations and to end the ethnic strife in the island. It provides for a guarantee by India for the implementation of the agreement which includes a halt to hostilities within 48 hours. A joint Indo-Sri Lankan observer group will monitor the cease-fire. The accord also envisages stationing an Indian peacekeeping force in Sri Lanka to enforce and guarantee the end of hostilities.

The militant Tamil groups will surrender arms and the Army will move back to positions held 2 months back within 5 days.

The accord provides for one administrative unit for the Northern and Eastern Provinces till a referendum is held in the Eastern Province before the end of next year. The single unit will come into being within 3 months or latest by December's end. The president retained the discretion to postpone the referendum.

Emergency in Northern and Eastern Province will be lifted by the 15th of next month. A general amnesty to political and other prisoners under emergency laws will be granted. Sri Lanka will take steps to rehabilitate the militants and bring them back to the national mainstream.

India has assured Sri Lanka that it will give all necessary steps to provide military assistance, if necessary, to enforce the accord.

Through a separate exchange of letters, Sri Lanka has also undertaken upon itself to ensure that Indo-Sri Lanka relations are not prejudiced by the presence of foreign military and intelligence personnel. Trincomalee and other ports in Sri Lanka will not be made available for military purposes by any country prejudicial to India's interest. It has also been agreed that Sri Lanka's agreement with foreign broadcasting organizations will be reviewed to ensure that facilities are not used for military or intelligence purposes.

Sinhala Monks Protest Signing of Peace Accord

BK280634 Hong Kong AFP in English
0627 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Colombo, July 28 (AFP) — Hundreds of hardline Sinhala Buddhist monks converged on the center of Colombo Tuesday to protest the planned signing of a peace accord with the country's minority Tamils, eyewitnesses said.

The monks, reacting to calls from the revered leaders of the country's three main Buddhist sects Monday, started trekking towards a city park opposite Colombo's town hall and a railway station early Tuesday, saying they planned a sit down protest.

The country's newspapers, meanwhile, carried a ringing denunciation of the accord, scheduled to be signed Wednesday between President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, by opposition leader Sirimavo Bandaranaike.

In a three-page document, Mrs Bandaranaike, a former prime minister whose son is the leader of the opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), accused Mr Jayewardene of acting unconstitutionally in not putting the accord before Parliament prior to its signing, and called for a national referendum.

She appealed to Buddhist monks and to the country's Moslem community to show their displeasure by flying black flags when Mr Gandhi arrived in the capital Wednesday for the signing.

The call for the monks to take to the streets in protest was made by the leaders of the country's three most prominent Buddhist groups, the two chapters of the Siamese sect, the Malwatta and the Asgiriya, and the Amarapura sect at a meeting in a Buddhist institute of higher learning some 10 kilometres outside Colombo Monday, Buddhist sources said.

Police Try To Disperse Crowd

BK280804 Hong Kong AFP in English
0753 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Colombo, July 28 (AFP) — Scores of youths went on the rampage in the centre of Colombo Tuesday after police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse hundreds of Sinhala Buddhist

monks protesting a proposed peace agreement with the island nation's Hindu Tamils, eyewitnesses said.

The eyewitnesses said when the firing stopped scores of youths poured out of alleyways and sidestreets and went on the rampage throwing stones and bricks, and burning government vehicles.

By late morning Army troops had joined police in trying to contain the protestors, some of whom moved into the port area to torch Tamil jewellery shops and others who converged on a government owned newspaper building.

By midday, the streets leading out of the city centre were clogged with office workers fleeing the area by car and on foot, an *Agence France-Presse* reporter said.

However, at the residence of Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene, workers continued preparations for the arrival of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who is scheduled to initial the agreement Wednesday.

The Buddhist demonstration, which was attended by leading opposition figures including former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike, started as a peaceful sit in across one of the city's main thoroughfares in the Pettah district blocking traffic with about 1,000 police standing by, witnesses said.

However, a policeman was hit with a missile thrown from the crowd, and they retaliated immediately with tear gas, rubber bullets, live ammunition fired into the air and a baton charge, the witnesses said.

One police constable was injured apparently by rifle fire, they said.

The youths emerged from side streets and alleys after the street had been emptied by tear gas and started on a rampage, throwing stones at police and burning government vehicles.

An AFP reporter saw three state owned buses set ablaze and witnesses said two police vans and a fire brigade vehicle were also burned.

A main target of the mobs was Lake House, headquarters of the government owned Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd., which has been promoting the accord, and is considered pro-establishment.

Journalists were seen fleeing the building as it was rained with stones and bricks, while others remained holed up inside after guards managed to close the iron entrance gate.

Smoke could be seen rising from several areas of the inner city, eyewitnesses said.

Curfew Imposed in Colombo

BK281341 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 28 Jul 87

[Text] Official sources reported that demonstrations by [words indistinct], during which damage was caused to several establishments, compelled the police to fire tear gas in order to disperse the crowd of demonstrators in the (?port area) this morning. According to these sources, the police fired several rounds of tear gas to stop the mob from damaging property and to prevent meeting. [Words indistinct] and tomorrow has been declared as public, bank, and merchantile holiday in the Colombo municipal area.

In addition to the curfew now in force in the Jayewardenepura, Kotte, urban council area, the curfew has now been declared in the whole of the district of Colombo to be operative from 1800 today to 0600 tomorrow, Wednesday. The police have been instructed to enforce this curfew [words indistinct].

Curfew Extended; Holiday Declared

BK290154 Colombo International Service in Hindi 0130 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] The curfew, imposed from last night until 0600 this morning, has now been extended until 1100 tomorrow. The invitation cards extended earlier will be accepted as curfew passes during the curfew hours. A public holiday has been declared in Colombo today.